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Kent on Sunday

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Fuel bills to push some over edge in high cost of cold spell

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

UNSEASONABLY cold weather throughout March and into April has pushed some households to the brink of fuel poverty as they struggle with high heating bills caused by the coldest spring in 50 years.

Although it is hoped the weather will begin to show improvements this weekend, snow flurries continued through much of the week as temperatures struggled to get above freezing.

Energy industry insiders say the cold snap has forced many people in Kent to pay as much as £165 for heating their homes in March alone.

This comes on top of already steep bills which have risen year-on-year over the past decade. Of the average annual cost per household for energy of £1,344, it is estimated nearly half – £600 – is for heating.

One industry expert said the majority of households had likely doubled the amount of energy usually used to heat their homes in March.

The crippling costs are widespread and putting a huge strain on families already struggling during the economic gloom. But it is vulnerable groups, such as low income families and the elderly, who are most at risk.

Some have even been forced to switch off their heating or heat just one room in their home.

Both Kent County Council and Medway Council offer cold weather payments

Continued on page 2

Picture: ADY KERRY



GILLS' DREAM MAKER

TABLE-TOPPERS: Martin Allen on season's emotional rollercoaster – **SEE INSIDE**

WELFARE

Benefits shift sparks debate

IT HAS been a political hot potato all week after George Osborne came to the county to address his controversial benefit reforms.

And it continues to divide opinion.

Inside we take a look at the situation in the county and ask 'is it fair?'. **PAGE 4**

EDUCATION

Warning over free schools

UNION bosses are challenging the Government over its free school policy, amid fears they are failing to take into account the need of local populations.

One free school in Kent is already open and another four are planned, some of which, experts say, could put existing schools at risk. **PAGE 12**

TRAVEL

KLM takes off at Manston

AMID infectious enthusiasm, Manston Airport once again launched a passenger service it hopes will transform its fortunes this week.

The service by Dutch firm KLM whisks passengers to the airport hub in Amsterdam with direct links to 130 destinations around the world. **PAGE 17**

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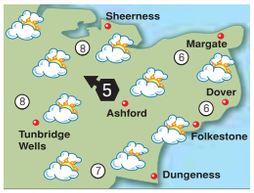
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Weather



TODAY: Dry with sunny spells and variable cloud. Light winds. Max temp 6-9C (43-48F). **TONIGHT:** Dry but mainly cloudy. Breezy. Min temp 0-3C (32-37F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	10.00	6.0	22.15	6.2
Margate	10.58	4.4	23.09	4.5
St Mary's	03.18	5.1	15.48	5.1

WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Max 9C	Min 2C
Tuesday	Max 10C	Min 5C
Wednesday	Max 11C	Min 5C
Thursday	Max 8C	Min -3C
Friday	Max 9C	Min 3C
Saturday	Max 13C	Min 3C

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

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HEATING

Vulnerable at risk as cold weather puts strain on household finances

Continued from front page

to people claiming certain benefits when the temperature drops to zero or below for seven consecutive days.

And charity Age Concern is making sure those most vulnerable are top of its list for support.

Chief executive of the charity's Deal branch, Debbie Barry, told KoS the centre holds an 'at risk' register, where an information and advice officer goes out to visit older people in their homes.

She explains: "I have spoken with staff concerned in these activities – the older people visited are struggling with finances, particularly at the current time with our prolonged freezing weather.

"People are at further risk due to this, and through our advocacy service we know that many are struggling with finances, largely due to high fuel bills."

Kent Community Foundation (KCF), an organisation working to improve the lives of local people, particularly the most vulnerable, has awarded 100 hardship grants through its Surviving Winter fund via frontline organisations to elderly people struggling with the effects of the long winter.

Chief executive officer of KCF, Carol Lynch, said: "The winter months have continued to cause difficulties for some.

"In the last month we have had applications for 70 more individual hardship grants, and many of these will be used to help to pay heating bills."

The problems caused by the cold snap are widespread, with additional pressure on the UK's dwindling gas reserves, as people keep the heating switched on.

Maidstone Citizen Advice Bureau's chief executive, Bonny Malhotra, said demand for advice and support was rising for a variety of reasons – with the chilly conditions and soaring fuel bills contributing a significant amount, although he could not put this surge solely down to the freezing conditions.

Price comparison analyst, Clare Francis, of MoneySupermarket, which holds information on the different energy providers, said heating systems have had to work overtime so far this spring.

She said as a result, households were using twice as much energy as normal for this time of year.

"There is no doubt that this winter, and the cold start to spring in particular, has really hit households hard at a time when the cost of heating your home is already steadily rising," she said. "With snow still on the ground in many places and temperatures remaining at or around freezing point, many of us will have upped the use of our heating over the past few weeks to cope with the record-breaking weather.

"For many, this will be worrying in terms of paying for gas and electricity at a time when we usually begin to reduce our consumption as the temperature rises outside."

FUEL POVERTY

A household is said to be in fuel poverty if it needs to spend more than 10 per cent of its income on fuel to maintain satisfactory heating.

Figures released by Kent County Council in 2012 showed that in recent years around 80,000 households were classed as being fuel poor, 13.6 per cent of all households.

EDUCATION

First steps to learning revealed as primary school places allocated

By Marijke Cox
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THE next generation of school children are due to embark on their journey through education after being given their primary school placements, with 14,264 allocated their first preference.

But while the families of these youngsters – aged four and five – were celebrating, 1,127 children will be going to their second preference school and 447, their third.

Parents were asked to choose schools in order of preference at the end of last year. Of the 15,838 children, some 661 had their places allocated by the local education authority, Kent County Council, having been denied a place at all three of their preferred schools.

KCC said this year the authority saw 205 more applications than last year and that almost 96 in every 100 children will start their formal education in September at a primary school chosen by their families.



SCHOOL: Children aged four and five have been given primary school places

Corporate director for education, learning and skills at KCC, Patrick Leeson, said, however, the council would "not lose sight" of the four per cent not to have been given a school place of their choice.

"Many will secure places through waiting lists and primary reallocation," he stressed. "Others may successfully appeal for a school of their choice."

He added: "I am well aware that we will face continued challenges in meeting parental demand next year and every year."

Parents are now being asked to accept their school place offers or seek alternatives if they are not happy with their allocation.

KCC said there are still 1,490 places available at schools in Kent.

Mr Leeson said the council had also, with "good forecasting" and "careful planning", secured more than 450 additional places for the start of the 2013/14 academic year.

This is in contrast to an announcement made by the authority last year in which it admitted a significant shortage in primary school places, with 10,000 extra places needed by 2015/16 – the equivalent of 43 average-sized primaries.

Last month, KCC discussed plans to expand 15 primaries in the county, in the Maidstone, Ashford, Folkestone, Thanet, Dartford, Gravesham, Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells areas.

It followed the submission of planning applications to increase the intake of eight other primaries for September amid the issue surrounding a lack of school places.

The majority of these latest plans will see primaries expand by an additional 30 places, meaning an extra form of entry in each case.

Medway Council's primary school offer day is on Friday, April 12.

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DEVELOPMENT





FANGTASTIC FIND: The distinguished jumping spiders were discovered at the site in Swancombe earmarked for the Parmount theme park

Could creepy crawlies leap into action and become part of £2bn park's entertainment line-up?

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

THERE could be a new attraction amid the white-knuckle rides at the proposed £2 billion Paramount Park after a colony of rare spiders which threatened to derail park plans may now become a feature of it.

Designs for the giant north Kent pleasure park, backed by the Hollywood studio, were under threat following the discovery of the arachnids.

The 'distinguished jumping spiders' are found on only two sites in the UK and appear on a biodiversity priority list. They are not, however, legally protected.

But developers say they will set aside a conservation area and the species could even be one of the attractions.

The park will eventually be one of the biggest in the world, creating 27,000 jobs on a former cement factory site on the 872-acre brownfield site on the Swanscombe peninsula.

The spiders flourish in the area as they like the alkaline soil created from cement kiln dust created by the former works.

Developers London Resort Company Holdings (LRCH) have now outlined plans to create a wildlife park which will become home for the spiders.

Richard Stocks is a consultant on the project.

He told KoS: "These days developers have to take a responsible approach and so we are looking at ways to protect the colony.

"The intention is to learn from similar conservation schemes on other projects. There is plenty of expertise in this area among our team."

The developers say it is possible the spiders could even be part of the park's attractions which are set to include Europe's largest indoor water park, theatres, live music venues, cinemas, restaurants, event space and hotels as well as thrill rides.

LRCH has signed an agreement with Paramount to be able to use some of its best-known movies to act as the basis of rides and attractions.

The film studio is behind blockbusters such as Indiana Jones, Tomb Raider and Mission: Impossible.

The developers are also in negotiations with a range of major British brands to sign similar licensing agreements.

Jeremy Kite, leader of Dartford council, said: "It was always in the plans to create a wildlife site and I think it is good the developer has adopted this approach. In the old days someone would have just concreted over the spiders and no-one would have been any the wiser."

The spiders have very sharp eyesight and they normally move fairly slowly.

But they are capable of very agile jumps, especially when hunting, but sometimes in response to sudden threats.

If the scheme moves ahead, work will begin in 2015, with the site opening in 2019.

SPORT

Team endures nightmare trip after baked bean spillage delays game

EBBSFLEET United's round trip from Kent to Cumbria for a football match turned into a nightmare journey after the team bus was held up by a baked bean spillage.

The club, which plays at the top of the non-league pyramid in the Blue Square Bet Premier League, had already been held up by a crash on the M25 before they discovered a lorry load of beans had tipped over on the M6.

It meant the club arrived an hour late for kick-off in the league clash with Barrow-in-Furness.

The game finally got under way at 9.15pm and finished at 11pm.

All of which made for a long day for Fleet's manager Liam Daish. He had left his home at 8.30am on Wednesday morning and returned almost exactly 24 hours later.

Speaking to BBC Radio 5 Live after finally completing the lengthy journey, Mr Daish – a former Republic of Ireland international – said: "I'm not full of beans at the moment – the whole day was unbelievable."

The team coach had set off on the 317-mile trip at 10.45am, but suffered an initial delay after an accident on the M25.

It then became stuck on the M6 after a lorry crashed near Merseyside and shed its load of Heinz baked beans onto the carriageway.

Huge tailbacks were caused while police and emergency crews attended the scene and the driver was treated for minor injuries.

Mr Daish said: "We just got really snagged up in traffic. First, we got caught on the M25. Then the second jam was caused by baked beans. You couldn't make it up.

"We travelled through the night to get back, and I walked through my front door at about 8.30am on Thursday – I've was on the go for 24 hours."

To make matters worse, Ebbsfleet only drew 1-1 and are now in a battle to avoid relegation.

COUNTY

High Sheriff takes seat

LORD Alastair Colgrain becomes the new High Sheriff of Kent this weekend, replacing the outgoing Michael Bax.
The 61-year-old beef farmer from Ide Hill assumes the historial role as the Crown's judicial representative in the county; one which today is largely ceremonial.
The term of office is just one year.

RETAIL

HMV rescue bid hopes

HOPES are high that jobs and stores could be saved on the high street after a £50 million rescue deal was signed on Friday to save HMV.

A number of stores in Kent have already shut - in Folkestone and Ashford - but there are hopes now bigger stores such as those in Maidstone, Westwood Cross, Canterbury, Tunbridge Wells and Bluewater will remain open.

INTERNET

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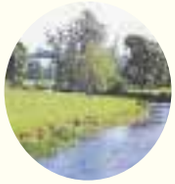
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HEALTH

£3m overpaid to NHS staff

HEALTH chiefs say they have so far retrieved around two-thirds of nearly £3 million overpaid to some 2,000 doctors and nurses employed at Kent's NHS trusts.

The overpayments were discovered after a Freedom of Information request submitted by the BBC to the Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells, East Kent, Dartford and Gravesham, and Medway trusts.

FUNDING

Coastal towns in cash chance

SEASIDE towns have another chance to apply for a share in the Government's multi-million pound Coastal Communities Fund.

Applications are open now with a pot of £27.2m available.

Last year, 26 projects won funding for a variety of projects including rejuvenating heritage areas and leisure facilities as well as helping promote innovation.

WILDLIFE

Rhino support swells as volunteers rally to stop poaching threat

By Joe Bill
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MORE than 175 people have offered to become volunteers in a bid to protect rhino at two popular wildlife parks after threats the animals could become victims of poachers.

Bosses at Port Lympne, near Hythe, and Howletts, near Canterbury, had to step up security last weekend after receiving a credible police threat that poachers were planning an attack on the black rhino herd in a bid to steal their precious horns which can fetch as much as £50,000 per kilogramme.

Conservation charity the Aspinall Foundation, which runs both parks, put out an appeal for help in recruiting volunteers to step up patrols around the park and received a big response.

Manager of the two parks, Bob O'Connor, said: "We are now beginning the process of going through all the applications – we will reply to everyone who has been in touch with us."



MOVING TARGET: Black rhino

Port Lympne and Howletts are home to the world's most important collection of black rhinos outside Africa, with the herd – consisting of more than 20 rhino across both parks – free to roam hundreds of acres of countryside.

But poaching of their horns is on the rise. Last year, a rhino horn on display at Quex House in Birchington was stolen - only for thieves to realise owners had switched it for a replica amid a rise in reports of such thefts elsewhere.

WELFARE

Benefits reform poor as 'belated'

What effects will the Government's radical changes to the welfare system, which came into play this week, have on Kent's most in need?

By Marijke Cox
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WHEN Chancellor George Osborne stood before an audience of supermarket depot workers in Sittingbourne on Tuesday to set his stall out on benefit reform, his comments divided the nation.

Few across the political divide will argue the benefits system needs reviewing, to ensure the public purse is being spent wisely on those in genuine need.

The big question is whether the latest reforms – which include the hugely controversial 'bedroom tax' – have gone too far.

But what of the situation in Kent? With the county going to the polls in a few weeks for the county council elections, it is likely to influence the judgement of many at the voting booths; whether by supporting or opposing the changes.

The biggest concern is the changes are leaving many confused as to what it means to them – despite high-profile efforts by local councils to ensure those needing benefits are getting the correct guidance.

Turn2us is a charity which provides those in financial need with help to gain access to welfare benefits and other financial assistance.

Welfare benefits specialist Karen Holmes, from the charity, said: "Our latest research findings show benefit claimants in Kent are uncertain, confused and concerned about the welfare changes that are starting this month and rolling out over the next few years.

"Generally speaking, these major changes, which affect both those in and out of work, are likely to cause a greater squeeze on household income, especially at a time when people are already struggling with rising food and fuel prices, job losses and stagnant wages."



STRONG WORDS: George Osborne defended changes to the benefits system during Monday's visit to Sittingbourne

However, the concern has turned into fierce criticism from many.

Chief executive of homelessness charity Porchlight, which has its headquarters in Canterbury, Mike Barrett, told KoS the poor were being "demonised" to justify the cuts being made.

He said: "In reality these aren't families or individuals living a life of luxury on taxpayers' money; they are normal working households who are struggling to make ends meet.

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CHARITY

County continues strong link with

NEARLY 30 years ago the world's worst nuclear disaster engulfed a remote part of the then-USSR and put the name of Chernobyl forever in the history books.

As the radioactive cloud was released after the power station's reactor went into meltdown, there were fears the impact would last for generations.

For the people who lived and worked near the plant – in what is now the Ukraine – the health side-effects continue to be seen.

Not for the first time since the incident, children who still suffer the after-effects are coming to Kent to breathe fresh air and tell people how their lives have been blighted.

Since the early 90s, Kent families have played host to the young people who live in areas still affected by contaminated earth and water in Belarus and Ukraine.

Visits to schools and events are organised and the children stay for four weeks.

Some of the boys and girls, aged 10 to 16, are in very poor health with conditions such as bone disorders and malfunctioning kidneys.

Sarah Day, from New Romney, is organising the latest visit which is sponsored by the International Education and Exchange group based in Germany.

"It's a chance to educate people about the effects from

'demonises' our overhaul begins

What are the key reforms?

- Removal of spare room subsidy or 'bedroom tax': housing benefit for working-age social housing tenants whose property is larger than they need will be cut.
- Benefit cap of £26,000: households on out-of-work benefits will no longer receive more than the average weekly wage after tax and insurance.
- Benefit uprating: Working-age benefits and tax credits will rise by one per cent.
- Local provision: Crisis loans and community grants will be decided by local authorities which are seen as better placed than the Government to ensure the money goes to the neediest.
- Disability Living Allowance: to be replaced by Personal Independence Payment.

Benefits cost to Kent

The benefits system certainly costs the taxpayer many millions a year, although trying to pinpoint just how many are reliant on payments in Kent is no easy matter.

According to the latest figures up to May 2012, a total of 650,000 claims are made across the county. But that figure is dramatically swelled as it includes 302,000 claims for the state pension.

Taking out those simply claiming a pension, the remaining 348,000 may include multiple claims made by the same person or, indeed, those already claiming a pension.

"These ill-thought-out changes to the welfare system will leave organisations like Porchlight struggling to meet increased demand from people in desperate situations.

"No progress will be made, no public money will be saved and many people in Kent will be driven further into poverty – 17,000 alone are due to be affected by the bedroom tax."

But many are more supportive, arguing that last year benefits rose three times faster than the salaries of the working population.

In such austere times, the chancellor would indeed be remiss to not closely examine one of the nation's biggest outgoings.

Speaking from the Morrisons distribution centre in Sittingbourne on Tuesday, Mr Osborne said the changes were about "making sure every penny is used to back hard-working people who want to get on in life".

"For too long we've had a system where people who did the right thing – who get up in the morning and work hard – felt penalised for it, while people who did the wrong thing got rewarded for it," he said.

Mr Osborne also claimed that nine out of 10 working households will be better off as a result.

He was supported by Conservative MEP for the south east, Daniel Hannan.

He said: "This isn't about idlers and scroungers, still less about cruelty and heartlessness; it is about belatedly fixing a system that had grown beyond our control.

"In the medium term, some people might be rescued from the squalor of dependency; in the short term, Britain will be less likely to go bankrupt.

"But, 10 years from now, you can be certain that there will still be heartbreaking cases of people slipping through the system; and you can be equally certain that there will be wicked people abusing the rules."

The Labour Party in Medway, however, took to the streets this week, calling on the Kent community to support its calls for the Government to rethink the reforms, particularly the bedroom tax.

Labour leader Vince Maple said people will be worse off under the new changes.

"The sad irony is this will end up costing taxpayers more because of the likelihood of people being evicted, as they can't afford their current homes," he said.

"This isn't about tough choices, it's about the wrong choices.

"And at exactly the same time as the bedroom tax and the so-called 'localising of council tax', which is effectively the poll tax mark two, coming into effect, Cameron, Osborne and Ian Duncan-Smith are giving thousands of millionaires a tax cut of £100,000 a year."

■ What do you make of the changes? Share your views with us: write to The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS.

children hit by Chernobyl disaster

high levels of contamination in areas up to 100 kilometres away from the disaster zone.

"But it's also a chance for them to breath fresh air and eat food free from contamination."

The Chernobyl reactor is now encased in concrete after the fires were halted by sand dropped from helicopters piloted by men such as Igor Pismenskij, who will accompany the group and recount his heroic 29 missions over the crippled power station.

Ms Day said: "I once asked Igor what would have happened if it never worked, if the dropping of the sand did not put out the fires.

"He said there was no Plan B. If it did not work then the other three reactors would have exploded and the whole of Europe would be an exclusion zone today. That's how serious it was."

The Chernobyl Children's Lifeline Ashford and Romney Marsh Link has formed strong bonds with the children from the nuclear disaster area.

Both Norton Knatchbull School and St Simon's in Ashford regularly contact educational establishments and Kent's fire service donated two fire engines to the area worst affected.

Specsavers stores in the county also offer free eye tests.

"We want to raise awareness of the continuing problems these children face," said Ms Day.



PATRON: Prince Charles has extended his Chatham interests

ROYAL

Princely dockyard

PRINCE Charles has agreed to become patron of the Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust.

Announced on Friday, the Prince of Wales will take on the role for a five-year term immediately.

Bill Ferris OBE, chief executive of the trust, said: "HRH The Prince of Wales became Patron of No 1 Smithery, then called the National Museums at Chatham project, in April 2006.

"He extended his patronage further in July 2011 to incorporate the historically important Command of the Oceans project which is centred around the significant find of the ship's timbers of HMS Namur.

"The fact that he has agreed to be patron of the entire site is huge recognition of the work that we are doing."

MUSIC

Stones to play Hyde Park

DARTFORD rockers the Rolling Stones have confirmed they are to headline a massive open air show at London's Hyde Park this summer.

The band, who played a legendary free show in front of 250,000 at the site in 1969, will perform on July 6 – one week after they headline Glastonbury. Tickets will be far from free though; prices start at £95.

SAFETY

Hotel fined in asbestos case

THE hotel chain which runs the Grand Burstin on Folkestone's seafront has been ordered to pay more than £200,000 in fines and costs after construction workers and guests were put at risk of asbestos exposure.

Britannia Hotels Ltd failed to ensure a full asbestos assessment was undertaken before construction on a wing of the site in 2010.





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SPORT

Big surge for Wembley tickets as club clinches historic place in final

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

THEY are more accustomed to playing in front of crowds just over 100 people at home games, but next month Tunbridge Wells Football Club will grace Wembley Stadium, with its 90,000-seat capacity, in the final of a national cup competition.

The part-timers became just the second club in the county to ever make it to the final of the FA Vase, the top knock-out tournament for lower non-league clubs, when they defeated County Durham side AFC Shildon last Saturday with just seconds to spare.

And delighted fans were this week snapping up tickets to be part of history. In the first 48-hours of them going on sale, more than 3,000 of the allocation open to Kent fans were purchased.

Wembley's lower tier – closest to the pitch – is being split right down the middle in what should ensure a vibrant atmosphere.

However, the Wembley date was far from a foregone conclusion after a roller-coaster second leg of their semi-final clash last weekend.



Having won the home tie 2-0, they made the long journey north only to find themselves 3-0 down within the hour, and facing defeat.

But with just 19 minutes to go, they grabbed a goal back to level the aggregate score and force extra time. With just two minutes of exta time left, defender Perry Spackman scored the goal which sent the travelling fans into raptures.

Tunbridge Wells will now play Northern League Division One side Spennymoor Town, also from Durham, in the final on Saturday, May 4.

Club chairman Joe Croker said: "It's still at the point where I cannot believe we've done it.

"Until we get to Wembley I'm going to find it hard to appreciate what we've done. We had some heart-stopping moments in the semi-final but it was all worth it."

They will now hope to emulate Deal Town in 2000, when they won the competition beating Chippenham Town 1-0. Last year also saw Herne Bay come close, but they eventually lost in the semi-finals.

Tickets for the final are £15 for adults, and £5 for under-16s. Book at www.thefa.com/tickets or by phone on 0844 980 0656.



WEMBLEY BOUND: Tunbridge Wells have reached FA Vase final. Pic: ADY KERRY

Magic of the Vase

FOR the big boys it's the FA Cup, for the county's senior non-league clubs there is the FA Trophy, but for those playing Kent League and below, the road to Wembley is achieved by success in the FA Vase.

Not only does it give teams who struggle to pull in three-figure attendances each week the chance to play on the hallowed turf of the national stadium, but it gives their players the chance to play in front of a crowd of thousands.

When Deal Town played Chippenham under the old twin towers of Wembley, they did so in front of 20,083 fans.

The biggest crowd for an FA Vase final was in 2007, when a staggering 36,232 watched Truro City beat AFC Totton 3-1.

KoS Comment

DO not underestimate the achievement of Tunbridge Wells to reach this final – or miss the chance to cheer them on at Wembley; it is a treat which doesn't happen very often.

Kent has a strong history of turning out in force to support its non-league clubs and KoS urges all fans to join forces next month and get behind the team as it steps out at Wembley to represent the county.

So, regardless of whether you normally support Dover, Ashford, Maidstone, Gillingham or Ebbsfleet, let's help make Saturday, May 4 a day Kent football remembers forever – and buy your ticket to cheer on Tunbridge Wells in the FA Vase final.

For more on the club's remarkable success, turn to our sports section.

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FOOD

Carbon neutral truck makes cheese guilt-free

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

WHEN a cheesemaker declared last year it had become the first to develop a process to produce a carbon neutral cheese, it heralded a new dawn for the production technique.

One year later and it has refined its act even more – now making the process of both making and delivering the product carbon neutral too.

Winterdale Cheesemakers of Wrotham creates its cheddar using only renewable energy while producing no carbon emissions.

Now, the family-run business will also transport their product to the Fortnum and Mason luxury department store in London via an electric truck – solar powered from its farm.

Owner Robin Betts created the business with his wife and family in 2006 and has since won countless medals for their Winterdale Shaw and Winterdale Oak Smoked cheddars at the World Cheese Awards.

The 43-year-old said: "The milk comes straight out of the cow warm and we put it straight into our cheese vat. We don't need any energy to start the cheese-making process because it is already warm."

They have installed a new "ground source heat pump" at the farm to naturally raise the temperature of water used in the cheese-making process.



BIG CHEESE: Cheesemaker Robin Betts in the cave-like cellars where the cheese is stored and left to ripen for 10 months

Mr Betts said: "A ground source heat pump is a series of buried pipes about two metres deep. Those pipes run a water mixture through them and absorb heat out of the ground which always remains around 12 degrees. It is run through a compressor which raises the temperature to about 50 to 55 degrees.

"We also have solar panels to absorb the sunlight and turn it into electricity. So we can produce all of our cheese without using any energy or emitting any carbon."

Winterdale, which delivers cheese across the county, has now been sponsored by car manufacturers Nissan and leased an electric delivery vehicle.

Mr Betts explained: "It will be charged up by our solar panels, so the car will also be carbon neutral and then that will be used to deliver the first carbon neutral batch of cheese.

"The whole process from making the cheese to plonking it on the counter in Fortnum's at Piccadilly will be done without emitting any carbon whatsoever. That is a UK first."

The Wrotham business also has the advantage of being able to stay carbon neutral during the cheese's 10 month maturing period.

Mr Betts said: "We store it in our cave-like cellars under the cheese barn. They don't need any energy because they are below ground so they stay at the constant temperature of 10 to 12 degrees – the perfect temperature for ripening.

> **We always wanted to be energy efficient but we didn't realise we could do it so well**
>
> **ROBIN BETTS,** WINTERDALE

"In Cornwall, cheeses are often kept in warehouses and when it is 30 degrees outside they have to use a huge amount of energy to keep them cool."

Mr Betts added: "It wasn't the plan when we first started making cheese but we have evolved into it.

"We always wanted to be energy efficient but we didn't realise we could do it so well."

The first Winterdale carbon neutral cheese-run into London will take place at a special launch event on Friday, April 19.

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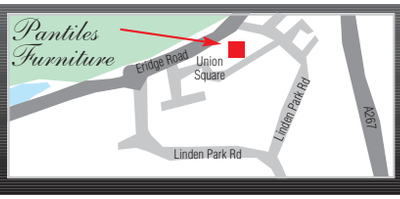
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TRAVEL

Bridge closures to enable roadworks

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

MOTORISTS are being advised of possible disruption at the Dartford Crossing as roadworks begin this weekend – and are set to last two years.

The work being carried out to the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge is designed to enable the replacement of the expansion joints which allow the bridge to expand and contract with seasonal changes in temperature.

It will mean lane closures and some complete closures while the work is taking place.

However, in order to limit problems, all of the work will be carried out overnight.

Tommy Whittingham, Highways Agency asset manager, said: "This routine work will make journeys smoother and will ensure the ongoing safety of the bridge for the thousands of drivers who use this crossing every day.

"Once installed, the new joints should have a shelf-life of at least 45 years.

"We have carefully planned this work to cause as little disruption as possible, so, although it will be carried out over a lengthy period, because it will take place overnight, using lane closures and a series of Saturday night closures, the impact on road users has been planned to be minimal."

The work got under way on Saturday night and will be carried out in phases.

There will be periods of overnight lane closures, between 8.30pm and 5.30am Monday to Friday nights only, and some full closures of the bridge on Saturday nights.

Throughout the rest of 2013 there are planned to be four full Saturday night closures of the bridge, between 10pm and 5am. These will take place this weekend, July 6-7, October 19-20 and November 9-10.

There will also be seven extended Saturday night closures, between 8pm and 10am, for larger scale work including installation of the new joints to be carried out. These will be May 11-12, June 22-23, July 27-28, August 3-4, September 28-29, October 5-6 and November 2-3.

During these full closures traffic will be diverted through the east bore of the tunnel, with northbound traffic using the west bore only. This already happens whenever the bridge is closed for maintenance.



EVENT

Don't miss out on castle triathlon

ORGANISERS of this year's Hever Castle Triathlon say it has seen quadruple the number of competitors signing up to take part in the event compared to the same time last year.

Taking place on September 28-29, and now in its fifth year, the main event will be televised by both Channel 4 and Sky Sports as part of their coverage of the Castle Triathlon Series, of which the Hever event is a part.

The Hever event includes family and children's sections. Last year, 800 children aged between eight and 15 took part.

Brian Adcock, race director, said: "One of our ambitions is to offer a race suitable for everyone. With such a stunning setting and awesome sport, it only seems right that the triathlon and venues are enjoyed by all."

See the website at www.castletriathlonseries.co.uk to enter and find out more.

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EDUCATION

Warning issued over the rise of the free school generation

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk



CLOSED schools, half empty classrooms and mismatched learning provision for the next generation of children – welcome to what experts believe will be the future of Kent's education system.

Fears have been sparked by the emerging army of free schools across the country, with one already open and four others planned in Kent alone as part of the first wave of this new breed of schooling.

The National Union of Teachers (NUT) argues that Whitehall is allowing free schools to open up anywhere regardless of communities' needs and without listening to concerns raised by local authorities, heads, governors or parents.

So concerned is the NUT over the Government's free school policy, it has launched a legal challenge demanding that the Department for Education release assessment reports, showing the impact of free schools on neighbouring schools.

General secretary of the NUT, Christine Blower, said: "In many cases the Government is allowing free schools to open regardless of concerns raised.

"They are opening in areas where there are already surplus school places and in others, the new free school will create surplus places leading to unnecessary competition and schools with many places unfilled.

"A significant number of these new schools – opening at vast cost to the taxpayer – are secondary schools when many parts of the country are desperately short of primary places."

In Kent, some 10,000 extra primary school places are needed by 2016.

The county's free school plans involve three new secondary schools and just two primaries, with one – Tiger Primary School in Maidstone – already open.

The secondary school proposals are: Trinity School Sevenoaks, Wye Free School near Ashford and Hadlow Rural Community School near Tonbridge.

Education consultant Peter Read, from Kent Independent Education Advice, said the county currently does not have enough information to see what impact these free schools will have, but that in Sevenoaks and Wye in particular there is no need for extra capacity.

But he said that while Kent County Council, the local education authority, can comment on proposals, it has no power to stop free schools from opening.

"Government is dismantling the education system. KCC has lost its role in strategic planning," he said. "But central government does not understand local issues.

"We have an elected democratic local authority – if they foul up at least they are fouling up with local knowledge.

"Government does not have local knowledge and it doesn't consult the local authority. It means centralised local provision which clearly doesn't follow local needs."

Education chiefs at County Hall have warned that the Wye Free School would be in the "wrong place at the wrong time".

But the Government is under no obligation to listen to KCC.

Mr Read said the Hadlow proposal could see parents choose the free school over the High Weald Academy.

Only the Wells Free School in Tunbridge Wells seems suited to the need for more primary places in the area.

Mr Read said: "KCC knows the needs of the area, but it's not allowed to start new schools, it can only expand existing ones, therefore it's got to be an academy, free school or voluntary-aided.

"Central Government is making decisions for an area it knows little about."

FIVE IN KENT

Tiger Primary School in Maidstone opened last year, it was the first free school to open in the county.

The Government has given the green light for four others.

Wye Free School, a 600-capacity secondary for boys and girls (aged 11-18)

Hadlow Rural Community School, a secondary school for girls and boys (aged 11-16) with a capacity of 180 pupils in Hadlow

Wells Free School, a primary school for girls and boys (aged 4-11) with a capacity of 154 pupils in Tunbridge Wells

Trinity School, a secondary school for girls and boys (aged 11-18) with a capacity of 790 pupils for Sevenoaks – planned as a non-denominational Christian school.

WHAT ARE THEY?

Free Schools are all-ability state-funded schools set up in response to what local people say they want and need in order to improve education for children in their community.

They can be set up by teachers, charities, parents, community groups and education experts.

HANDS UP: Is children's education being put at risk by the opening of free schools?

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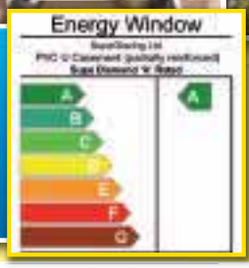
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TRANSPORT

Car park to be bulldozed

MAIDSTONE's King Street multi-storey car park is to be demolished after it closes on April 12.

The borough council's planning committee said it made the decision after "careful consideration of the costs invovled in necessary car park improvements...and maintenance".

It will be replaced by a single level car park with space for 61 vehicles.

TRAVEL

The great Easter escape

MORE than 250,000 people travelled through Dover as part of the great Easter getaway last weekend.

With no let up in the non-stop icy temperatures and snow showers, many decided to take to the Continent in pursuit of warmer weather.

The Port of Dover said its busiest day was Good Friday with some 75,000 passing through.

CRASH

Six car pile-up on M20

SNOW is being blamed for a six car pile-up on the M20 between Ashford and Maidstone last Saturday morning.

A police patrol car had stopped on the hard shoulder of the London-bound carriageway between junctions nine and eight to assist a van when four other cars collided - crashing into the police car. Only minor injuries were caused.

COMMENT

How our big society can play a part in helping law and order

In her latest column, Kent Police and Crime Commissioner **Ann Barnes** pays tribute to the volunteers who give up their time and expertise for free

DO you remember when David Cameron launched his call for the Big Society early in 2010?

I've now been in post as your Kent Police and Crime Commissioner for about 125 days.

During that time I've already met hundreds of volunteers doing incredible and valuable work in the world of policing and community safety here in Kent.

There are people working in charities who help tackle the issues of domestic violence, drug abuse, youth offending, hate crime and a myriad of other issues.

Add to that the vital role played by the special constabulary and you have an almost bewildering array of people from so many walks of life 'doing their bit' for society.

These are the unsung heroes. They work so diligently and in such an unassuming way that many of us would only miss them if they weren't there.

Big Society? In my view, the fact that a senior politician suggested that we need one shows how dangerously out of touch some politicians can be – I think we've already got a giant society, never mind a big one.

I'd like to take the opportunity in this column to do two things relating to the volunteers of Kent, who do so much for the greater good. The first is to send every single one of them a huge thank you.

The second is to highlight the need for more volunteers in one particular area that forms part of my policing world – independent custody visitors.

We have about 40 of these, but we need about another 20 in the coming months. So what do independent custody visitors actually do? It's simple and straightforward.

They visit custody cells in the county and check on the standards of detainees and report back to my office.

Mileage and parking expenses are paid for. The time commitment is modest, typically about five hours a month, but the contribution to our community safety and confidence in our custody services is vital.

I hope you might consider applying. Applications are best done directly to my office. Go to the website www.kent-pcc.gov.uk and click on the appropriate window in the scrolling news panel that appears towards the top of the screen.



your Kent Police and Crime Commissioner

■ Do you have an opinion on this? Get involved in the debate and share your comments on our letters' page. Email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or write to The Editor, KOS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, TN25 6SS.

How you can help write the rules for the Press

The British Press has pledged an urgent reform of its regulation, to restore trust in the wake of the Leveson Report. So it is seeking help from those who know best: You – the public, the 40 million readers of the UK's newspapers and magazines.

The Editors' Code of Practice Committee has launched a review of the Editors' Code that sets the rules for the British Press. It is inviting the public to contribute by suggesting changes to be incorporated into the Code of Practice, or The Editors' Codebook which accompanies it.

You can view both the Code and Codebook at www.editorscode.org.uk where you can lodge suggested amendments. Or you can send your suggestions by post to: Editors' Code Review, PO Box 235, Stonehouse, GL10 3UF.

Closing date for suggestions is April 17.

So, if you would like to see a change in the rules, why not let us know? A free and independent Press is only as strong as its readers.

ISSUED BY THE EDITORS' CODE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE



CRIME

Revellers in town centre get searched for illegal drugs

A CRACKDOWN on drugs took place on the streets of Maidstone last weekend as police officers and sniffer dogs patrolled the town centre.

A total of 15 people were searched on suspicion of possessing drugs and three were arrested on suspicion of possession of controlled substances. They were later given cautions.

A 30-year-old from Margate was arrestd on suspicion of dealing ecstasy and released on bail.

CHARITY

PC's 'egg amnesty' brings cheer to brave blind boy

POLICE office Gary Nash and his colleagues across west Kent helped make Easter extra sweet for a five-year-old blind boy from Tunbridge Wells.

Malachi Tyler lost his sight to the condition neurofibromatosis before reaching his second birthday but says he is determined to work for the police when it gets older.

PC Nash organised an Easter egg amnesty among fellow officers and businesses and collected more than 35 eggs - all of which he delivered to young Malachi.

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POLICE

Crime commissioner picks young apprentice

Teenager to be youthful voice of the police in unique new bid to bridge the generation gap

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

SHE'S the 16-year-old about to make history as the UK's first ever youth police and crime commissioner, but Paris Brown is taking it in her stride.

The former Isle of Sheppey Academy pupil, from Sheerness, says she is ready to be the voice for the younger generation of Kent, making sure they have the chance to speak up about what they believe the priorities in policing should be.

As an apprentice within the commissioning and open spaces department for Swale Borough Council, she already has experience working with young people.

And being one herself, she is well placed to know the trials and tribulations faced by youngsters today.

Her job will be to represent young people, building a bridge between them and the police and making sure their voices are heard while working alongside Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner Ann Barnes.

But what are the problems faced by Kent's youngsters?

Paris explains: "Definitely unemployment and that there's nothing to do. There are youth centres but most have closed down. There's just nothing for young people to do and so they get bored and just hang around.

"That's what gives people the wrong idea. They might see a young person in a hoody and think they should stay away but that's not the case, they should have a conversation."



DUO: Paris Brown will offer a young voice to PCC Ann Barnes

THE YOUTH ROLE

When Ann Barnes was running as an independent candidate for the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner, she vowed to appoint a young side-kick, to allow young people to be represented in the way the county's police force is run.

The job was advertised earlier this year and more than 160 applications were received for the £15,000 post which lasts for just one year.

Paris Brown is the first Youth PCC to be created in the UK.

Asked how the younger generation view police, she said: "Young people know they are just doing their job, but there is still an issue there.

"The only time young people are in contact with the police, is when they've done something wrong."

Paris was selected from 164 applicants for the post of youth police and crime commissioner.

She is due to start her new role in the summer after completing her apprenticeship at Swale council.

"I'm involved in play areas and helping to sort them out, I've also been involved in creating a skate park in Sittingbourne," she said.

Her PCC post will last for a year, with a package of £15,000 part-funded by Mrs Barnes' salary.

"I'm really excited and I can't wait to start," she said.

Mrs Barnes said she was delighted with her new recruit.

"I am the voice of local people as far as policing is concerned and a quarter of our population is young," she said. "I wanted to give one person the chance to be the voice for those young people."

She said the successful candidate needed to show real commitment, confidence and have a good media presence.

"This is important for this job as they will be out there all the time," she said. "This will be a hands-on role and I'll be relying on Paris to guide my office on how we can deliver a better service for all young people in the county and tackle youth offending."

Mrs Barnes and Paris will be working closely together, out and about throughout the county, and visiting schools and youth centres.

She stressed she would be working her youth counterpart "very hard", adding: "This is an amazing opportunity for her to get a step on the career ladder."

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ENVIRONMENT

Don't bank on it being a barbecue summer, says gloomy weather forecast

Amateur weatherman uses nature to predict climate

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

AFTER the long, relentless winter we have endured, it seems only fair that this summer is a sweltering one.

But the message from one amateur forecaster is 'don't get your hopes up'.

In fact, he predicts no prolonged period of dry sunny weather longer than 10 days during the summer months.

Edenbridge meteorologist David King, 73, is known to many simply as 'Dave The Weather'. And when we asked him to study the charts in order to give us an idea of what we can expect for the rest of the year, he didn't return with the warming news we were hoping for.

But then his techniques may not be quite as reliable as those deployed by the Met Office.

He explained: "I do not do daily weather, I do advance predictive indicative weather – working six months ahead all the time.

"No technology, just nature, flora and fauna, birds, moons and so on.

"I have a strike rate of 85 to 90 per cent accuracy month in month out."

Mr King said because the wind blew from the east on March 21, it will therefore be the predominant wind direction until at least May 25, and just like it was in 2011 and 2012, remain easterly until June.

He explains: "Therefore, it will have quite a cold edge on the wind. When the south westerlies take over, it becomes warmer.

"The weather on February 22 gives the next 40 nights' weather – it was bitterly cold, miserable, grey, precious little sun that day and a cold night too – which is why we have this weather currently, which should ease, relatively, this weekend."

So, what of the summer we are all looking forward to?

He explains "It will not be a barbecue summer this year.

"There is nothing in the reams of data I collate that shows any settled period of fine dry sunny weather longer than 10 days for the whole period, it might be easier to recall the last summer and say that it might be similar, except June will not be so damp this year.

"It is not too hopeful of bright, sunny, hot or even warm dry weather, but I can only use the hands that nature deals me.

"June will not be as wet as 2012, in fact, arguably, I think June may well be the best month of the summer."



RAINY DAYS: Dave The Weather thinks we'll need to keep brollies close at hand

While August is set to be "changeable" there is some cheer with September set to be warm, dry and settled.

But that's five months away. And as for the winter this year?

It could, says Dave The Weather, be harsher than the notorious winter of 1962/63 – dubbed The Big Freeze – and one of the coldest ever recorded.

However, don't get too downhearted. The Met Office has stopped doing long range forecasts as they are so unpredictable, and Mr King confidently predicted droughts throughout last summer. Instead it was one of the wettest on record.



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TRAVEL

First stop Amsterdam then the world, as optimism for new Manston flights soars

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk





TRIED AND TESTED: KLM's Amsterdam service is different to anything previously offered at Manston

IF IT was possible to bottle optimism and enthusiasm, then collectors of such a heady blend could have enjoyed a rich harvest in Thanet on Tuesday morning.

As the sun bathed Manston Airport in a bright – yet chilly – air, a new era was dawning for what is seen as a key piece in the jigsaw to rebuild the east Kent economy.

Dutch airline KLM's decision to fly two services in and out of the airfield is being hailed by many as the ticket to its future prosperity – a big, well-established, brand name which is running a service directly to Amsterdam's city-like Schiphol airport which, in turn, links to 190 destinations around the world.

But new dawns have become regular visitors to this part of Kent and for many the memory of past failures cast a long shadow.

"When Kent County Council launched its regional growth strategy for east Kent, the introduction said 'Kent is open to the world and open for business' – and that's what we're about."

So says Charles Buchanan. Since 2010 he's been chief executive of Manston and paid well to act as its cheerleader. Yet he is no stranger to success. His CV boasts ten years helping to build London City Airport into a major player, as well as being part of the original team which bid to build and operate Eurotunnel. Failure, you imagine, is not something which sits well with him.

Mention Manston's high profile string of failures over the last few years (EUjet, the aborted flights to the USA, Flybe and Kent Escapes) on this special day and it's as if you've bellowed out a rude word – this is not the time for dwelling on the past. But can this new service afford, I ask, not to work?

"It could do with working on all sorts of levels," he admits as we sit, just two hours before the first jet takes off, in the small yet bustling terminal cafe. "For the aiport, for the 150-odd staff and for the stimulus it brings to the local economy.

"But the KLM service is radically different to what has gone before. This is not a point-to-point service, of how many people want to travel to one destination, it's about linking to the world. We have people on the first flight who are going on to Asia, Africa and elsewhere in Europe.

"It brings that opportunity to people in Kent and in reverse too. We work with the likes of Locate in Kent to liaise with their prospective investors in the Kent economy on the opportunities which have opened up.

"North Amercian pharmaceutical firms can fly straight through Amsterdam to here and be at a world-leading science park ten minutes after landing. That's what we can offer."

The shadow of Pfizer and its decision to leave – for the most part – east Kent hangs heavy over this part of the county. It was such a significant employer it acted like a honey-pot for highly-trained, and paid, staff. Its departure has left a gaping hole in the community. Its Sandwich site – now Discovery Park – may yet be the key to unlocking the area's potential. A successful series of flights from Manston will certainly do its appeal no harm. Another part of the jigsaw.

Sir Roger Gale is Conservative MP for Thanet North. "This service has every chance of working," he says as he stands in the centre of the small terminal building. "KLM is one of the four largest airlines in the world, which people tend to forget, doing something which no-one else whas done. Previously, firms have launched lines with a hope people will want to go there.

"With this, it will go to Schiphol and then you can go anywhere in the world and it works the other way too."

It's hard not to be bitten by the positivity surrounding the KLM service; especially for those living in the middle to east of the county.

The prospect of not having to get involved in the M25 to reach Gatwick and Heathrow is an appetising one.

Yet, the errors of past operators using Manston have damaged the ability to embrace the future. Too many invested time and effort before only to be bitten when it collapsed.

Yet, KLM is – as many were swift to point out – a different kettle of the proverbial fish.

Its business strategy is, for one, organic. It is starting small and will only increase the size of aircraft or number of flights if the demand is there. And it knows who its audience is.

"We are targeting the 1.5 million people who live in the airport's catchment area," explains Henri Hourcade, general manager for UK and Ireland, "we are aiming at Kentish customers rather than London or further afield.

"We started selling tickets in November and the response has been very positive.

"This the 17th airport we depart from in the UK for Schiphol so we know this line of business. It is our first time in Kent but we're very confident. Others in the UK – Norwich, Bristol, Cardiff – are all similar to Manston and ticket sales are in line with those established routes."

He estimates some 5,000 tickets were sold before this week's launch. With prices starting at £79 return, it's competitively priced.

What is more, KLM is ready should bookings rise above their modest expectations.

Boet Kreiken is managing director of KLM Cityhopper.

He explains: "We are starting the route using the 80-seat Fokker 70.

"If it proves successful we'll add frequency. If not more frequency we'll increase the size of the craft – to 100-seaters. If the demand is there, we'll respond."

M Hourcade predicts KLM will not only still be operating next year but in "years to come".

It's easy to doubt. Easy to expect Manston to come unstuck again, but it's just possible this service could take-off – and in style. If it does, the area around it could too, and that is something everyone should keep their fingers crossed for.

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drive through europe

HISTORY

Do tracks of abandoned World War Two tanks end in lake of country manor hotel?

Joe Bill investigates rumour the Army sunk wartime vehicles in picturesque park to save money

IT surrounds one of east Kent's most stunning country houses, boasting a tree-lined drive, picturesque lake and perfectly manicured lawns.

But beneath the grandeur of Eastwell Park, near Ashford, lies a fascinating and mysterious past.

For many the park, the entrance for which is close to the village green in nearby Boughton Lees, is best-known for its four-star hotel Eastwell Manor that lies at its heart.

But the grounds have more than a few tricks up its sleeve.

Not only is it said to have once been the final resting place of King Richard III's illegitimate son, but also a secret testing ground for new weaponry during World War Two.

Rumours have been rife for years that a number of tanks were sunk into the lake in the grounds as the Army looked to rid itself of decommissioned vehicles after the war.

A book published in 1999 by Phillip G Dormer called The Eastwell Park Historiette lifted the lid on a little of the site's secrets.

The book documents the movements of various tank regiments as they trialled their new war machines on the open ground.

Pictures include one of the Royal Armoured Corps at Eastwell in 1943, as well as the testing of the notorious flame-throwing Churchill Crocodile tank.

David Willey, curator and military expert of the Tank Museum in Bovington, Dorset, believes the tale of the sunken tanks could well be true.

He said: "Various royal armoured units and tank regiments were based there during the war.



HIDING PLACE: Tank regiments trialled weapons, including Churchill's notorious flame-throwing Churchill Crocodile tank (below) at Eastwell Park during WWII



So how much would the tanks be worth?

THE truth is probably not very much.

Although the value of tanks can vary, expert David Willey suggests that those buried under earth or water for this amount of time would be too badly damaged to worry about financial value.

He said: "The value of the tanks is local heritage value, rather than monetary.

"When it has been in water or the ground that long there will be corrosion."

"There are a lot of these stories that are proven to be true, but they are a classic urban myth as well.

"So the idea there are some tanks buried at Eastwell is not impossible, but is worth taking with a pinch of salt. It is a classic buried treasure rumour, but wherever the Army trained, they are bound to have dumped stuff."

Eastwell Park has a number of large corrugated sheds which are said to have housed the vehicles, and there is a World War Two bunker dug into one of the hills overlooking the park.

It is also said that large fences were erected around the park for the Army to practice manoeuvres in the tanks before heading out to join the war effort.

But why would these impressive and expensive vehicles be left behind?

"With something as big as a tank," explains Mr Willey, "it always goes through this costing and cutting curve.

"To build one costs a fortune, but the minute they went out of service they were not worth the scrap value.

"There were times when people would dump things because it was cheaper than sending them to the scrap merchant.

"At the moment we are used to the idea scrap is actually quite valuable so we know it's worth saving.

"But there were certain periods after the war when there was so much scrap around it was worth nothing. We have some in the museum. They were used by the Army and then new vehicles came along so these were left behind.

"Later, someone just bulldozed earth over the top and left them in this bank in a country house estate because it was easier than bothering to transport it somewhere to be melted down."

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HERITAGE

Renowned architect's home opens after careful restoration

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

THE former home of one of the most prominent architects of the British Empire, who designed buildings around the world, has been opened to the public.

Three rooms in Owletts, the former home of renowned architect Sir Herbert Baker, who also redesigned the Bank of England, are available to visit every Sunday, following extensive restoration work on the building and its contents.

Managed by the National Trust, it is also the home of David Baker, the great-grandson of Sir Herbert, who looks after it with his wife Della.

Dating from the 17th century, the property, near Cobham, near Gravesend, has many signs of the great man's work in its interior.

A spokeswoman for the National Trust said: "It took professional movers a whole week to carry in the 900 objects and 1,400 books. Once in the house, each individually wrapped item had to be unpacked, examined and cleaned, ready to return to its place in the house.

"Objects were examined for damage and unwanted pests, then cleaned using specialist materials to ensure there was no damage. This took two weeks with up to six people working daily to care for the items in the collection.

"Items within the house vary enormously; from rare tapestries to ceramics, pictures to furniture, each telling a different aspect of the story of the house and its family.

"The book collection was particularly challenging – each precious book had to be cleaned and then meticulously replaced in its location, as if it had never been removed."

Sir Herbert was born in the house, but gave it to the trust in 1938, saying: "A small, but typical homestead of the 17th century squire-farmers of Kent was not unworthy of preservation."

Following his architectural apprenticeship he opened his own office in Gravesend in 1890.

Two years later, with his business established, he embarked for South Africa to seek his fortune and swiftly came under the patronage of Cecil Rhodes, Prime Minister of the Cape Colony and a noted Imperial administrator.

He worked there for the next 20 years designing many public buildings and private houses.

In 1912, Sir Herbert went to India to work on the government buildings in New Delhi and designed the civil servant office buildings flanking Sir Edwin Lutyen's Viceroy's House and Parliament House.

But a row broke out between the two over space and sight lines. Both saw their reputations suffer as a result.

Recalled to Europe, Sir Henry undertook post-World War One work for the Imperial War Graves Commission, including the huge cemetery at Tyne Cot, near Ypres in Belgium, one of the most impressive British military cemeteries in the world.

After his death his ashes were buried in Westminster Abbey – showing the regard in which he was held by the British establishment.

■ **Owletts is open on Sundays from 11am until 5pm until September 29.**





GRAND DESIGNS: The National Trust has opened Owletts, the former home of Sir Herbert Baker

PRIZE

Beaney shortlisted for Museum of the Year

CANTERBURY'S The Beaney has been announced as one of the ten finalists in the running for the prestigious title of Museum of the Year - and a £100,000 top prize.

The art museum and library in the heart of Canterbury re-opened last September after an extensive £14m refurbishment programme.

It will discover if it won the Art Fund prize at a special ceremony on June 4 in London.

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NATURE

Branch out in a bid to snap secrets of our woodlands

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

THESE dramatic images were last year's winners of the Kent Heritage Trees Projects' Woodland Photography Competition.

And now it is back for 2013, hoping to attract another bumper crop of striking scenes.

This year, budding photographers are asked to enter their best woodland images to showcase the native woods in the county.

Spokesman of the Ashford-based organisation, Daniel Brittle, said: "The competition is a fantastic way for people of all ages to enjoy and celebrate their local woodlands.

"This year's theme is the secret world of trees.

"We think of the forest as a world of trees, but the individual tree itself can be a whole world; from the insects, birds and fungi that live on it and in it, to its inner world of patterns and fractals."

There are age categories for under-12s, 12 to 17-year-old and 18-plus. The winning images from each category are chosen by the public at its annual woodland art festival.

■ **For details on how to enter see http://kentheritagetrees.tcv.org.uk/news/say-trees.**



ICE WORK: Joel Ramsey's picture, above, won the 18-plus category in last year's competition while Rachael Hooper (left) was the 12 to 17-year-old winner and Ellie Young Min was top under-12s snapper





CRIME

Ten years for molester

A SEX beast from Gillingham has been jailed for 10 years for molesting two girls.

Gary Roberts, 58, of Trafalgar Street, was convicted of one offence of sexual activity with a child and one of assault by penetration.

Kent Police arrested Roberts on March 23 last year after the abuse was reported. The abuse took place between that date and December 2010.

EDUCATION

College picks up grant

EAST Kent College has won a £1.6m grant to help build a creative arts centre at its campus in Broadstairs.

The centre, to open in September, will include a theatre, digital media suite and music performance spaces.

The Government cash adds to £1.7m of private funding the college has secured.

ENTERTAINMENT

Comic's theatre row

COMEDIAN Jim Davidson says he would still perform charity shows at Canterbury's Marlowe Theatre despite efforts to book the venue on his recent being turned down.

The theatre's director, Mark Everett confirmed he was not booked for his controversial material. Mr Davidson said: "The manager must be able to run his theatre the way he see fit."

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KENT **REMEMBERED**

Picture: PAUL JERREAT



OPEN: Visitors to Tunbridge Wells can once again take the waters at the Chalybeate Spring

Enjoy the 'restorative' properties of a spring favoured by royalty

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

IT was the source of success and royal patronage for a town which would become steeped in history and splendour – and now visitors can again take to the waters of Tunbridge Wells.

In 2010, the Chalybeate Spring – tucked away in the corner of the Georgian parade of the Pantiles – was closed to the public over fears of contamination of the iron-rich waters.

Fears now averted, the spring re-opened at Easter and is drawing people in to discover the secret of the town's success.

First discovered in 1606, it soon became very popular with the gentry and aristocracy of the time.

Most famously, Princess Victoria, later Queen Victoria, would drink the waters every day during her stay in the town in 1834. It would remain a popular retreat for the royals – leading to the decision in 1909 by King Edward VII to grant it a 'royal' prefix.

Others who made what came to be a pilgrimage included the likes of diary writer Samuel Pepys and author Daniel Defoe.

Visitors came to see and be seen in the soon fashionable Tunbridge Wells, but the main attraction was to "take the waters".

Chalybeate is derived from Latin and means iron-rich. Certainly for anyone who has tasted the water, the metallic tang is quite obvious.

And at the height of its popularity in the 18th century, the water was reputed to cure anything from infertility and hangovers to "a moist brain".

The spring was formed when rainwater drained into the iron-rich ground before forcing its way to the surface. It became a place where people watered livestock before its "discovery" by the gentry.

Dudley Lord North was the first prominent person to take notice of the reddish waters seeping from the ground, when he stopped off for a much-needed non-alcoholic drink after some hard partying.

The 25-year-old courtier to King James I was in poor health and had decided to spend some time relaxing at the Abergavenny estate at nearby Eridge.

A little worse for wear after some drinking sessions, he stopped at the sight of the bubbling water, got off his horse and decided to drink.

Convinced it had reinvigorated him, he spread the word and declared it to be health-giving to all his friends and acquaintances, which included many influential people in the court of the king and elsewhere in the capital.

A physician of the period claimed the waters of Tunbridge Wells could cure "the colic, the melancholy, and the vapours; it made the lean fat, the fat lean; it killed flat worms in the belly, loosened the clammy humours of the body, and dried the over-moist brain".

Word of the spring and its special properties soon spread and visitors from London and elsewhere flocked to the small settlement which developed alongside the spring and later became Tunbridge Wells.

The first historic record of a royal "taking of the waters" was in 1629 when Queen Henrietta visited for six weeks to recover from the birth of her second son, the future Charles II.

But it was in the 18th century with socialite Beau Nash that the spring reached its heyday and became a central feature of the daily routine for any self-respecting lady or gentleman visiting what was becoming known as "The Wells".

A typical fashionable day started with a glass of spring water, followed by a promenade along The Walks or a visit to the coffee house to hear the latest scandal. Later in the day saw more promenading, gambling or a match on one of the nearby bowling greens, before a musical soiree or grand ball in the evening.

The Chalybeate water was served by a "Dipper" for a small charge – not for the water but for the service and this tradition carries on today, as in the summer the cool spring water is served by a person in period costume.



OPINION

More healthcare for less cost

Making better use of modern technology is a key part of improving our healthcare provision and meeting tighter budgets, writes **Alison Davis**

THE NHS is being asked to deliver more for less.

At first glance, it seems an improbable equation. After all, we are living longer, beset by increasingly complex health conditions and demanding more of a health service that has less money.

Einstein said insanity is 'doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results' and GP-led clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) can challenge that mindset.

Their goals include improving quality of life for people with long-term conditions and supporting people to live more independently in their own homes, some of which can be achieved by encouraging greater patient involvement in their own healthcare.

As a result, local CCGs along with Kent County Council and Kent Community Health Trust, are pathfinders for Three Million Lives, a government initiative encouraging greater use of home-based technology to improve patients' lives.

Across Kent and Medway we are increasing the number of people with access to assistive technologies, namely telehealth and telecare.

Telecare involves the use of motion sensors and pressure pads to detect if someone has had a fall in the home, along with personal alarm pendants linked to a call centre. This makes people feel safer, becoming more independent in their own home

Telehealth allows patients with long-term conditions, like diabetes and heart disease, to monitor their condition and relay the information to GPs. The home-based equipment can monitor blood pressure, blood sugar levels and weight. This allows patients to learn more about their own condition, improving quality of life

It also allows health professionals to monitor a patient, ensuring that when changes are identified, support is available, reducing the need for admission to hospital.

We have to get people more involved in their own care and assistive technology is one way of doing that. If you, for example, can monitor your blood sugar level you are more aware of changes in your condition.

The NHS has been involved with KCC in assistive technology since 2005 and that partnership reflects the growing importance of linking health and social care and increased partnership working between the NHS and local authority.

We initially looked at providing telehealth to people with the most complex health conditions but are now widening the net to include those who would benefit from short-term monitoring, such as someone whose condition needs stabilising.

Telehealth technologies help around 450 people living with complex health conditions and we want to increase that to more than 10,000 by 2014.



Time, not money, is our most valuable asset

Time, not money, is our most valuable commodity and use of innovative technologies can save both patients and medical staff valuable hours.

The average household already uses technology in many different ways. In some areas, smart phones are used to support healthcare, presenting numerous opportunities.

Technology needs to be fully integrated as part of a person's care and not as an after-thought. We are working closely with partners including industry leaders to drive this forward.

See www.3millionlives.co.uk or speak to your healthcare professional for more details.

■ Alison Davis is head of innovation and lead for advanced assistive technology for Kent and Medway NHS Commissioning Support Unit.

KOS COMMENT

This weather really is snow joke anymore

WHETHER it is the impact on your fuel bill, the restrictions it places on what you can do, or simply the fact you crave some warming sunshine, the long, cold winter has far outstayed its welcome.

Given the gloomy state of the economy and the squeeze on our finances, going into April with our heating still on at home and work will come at a high price later in the year when the bills start dropping through our letterboxes. For some teetering on the brink of financial strife, it will be the straw which breaks the camels back.

So let's hope that forecasters' suggestions this weekend will see the temperatures begin to warm up will prove to be true. For the sake of our financial – and emotional – health.

Police's voice of youth

ANN Barnes' decision to recruit a Youth Police and Crime Commissioner certainly paid off this week with widespread national coverage.

So let us hope the county – and its youngsters – obtain genuine benefit from Paris Brown's appointment and that she is more than just a clever publicity stunt.

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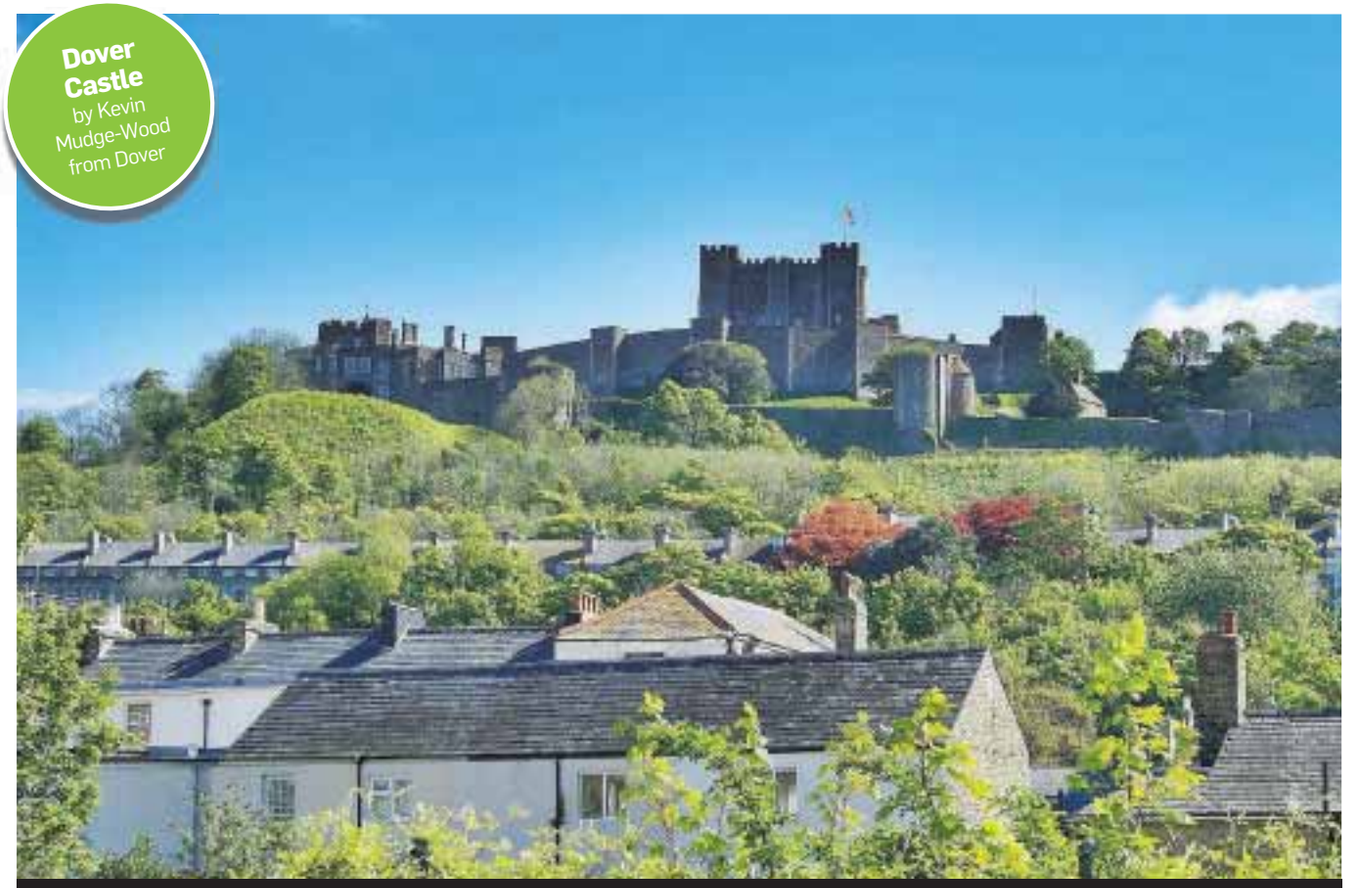
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Dover Castle by Kevin Mudge-Wood from Dover

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Tragic tale of man's greed

WHAT a real tragedy it is when we live in a world where beautiful, endangered species such as the rhino face being slaughtered at Kent zoos for their horns (KoS, last week).

Have things really got so desperate that poachers consider such steps necessary?

Surely society needs to think long and hard about what worth it puts on certain items to prevent this sort of terrible trade from growing.

S Southern, Folkestone

Monsters who target rhino

IT IS shocking that people have the nerve to threaten projects like the Aspinall Foundation's work to save the rhinos.

There are a pitiful few of these magnificent creatures left, but these wicked monsters want to break into our zoos and murder the herd there too.

Best of luck to the Aspinall Foundation in securing these wonderful animals.

Annette Barsby, via kentnews.co.uk

Public in line of poacher's fire

I COULD not believe last week's story about poachers targeting zoo rhinos; in fact I began by assuming it was an April Fool's Day prank.

Yet it swiftly became apparent the seriousness of the story suggested it was nothing of the sort. Instead it just made me so sad to think it could be happening in the Garden of England of all places.

However, I cannot understand how an army of volunteers patrolling the zoo's perimeter do not run the risk of finding themselves face-to-face with danger, should a poacher appear.

Poachers are prepared to slaughter animals for huge financial gain – surely they will think little of hurting, or worse, staff too?

Jean Scarborough, Ashford

Cliff fall down to sea erosion

I READ with interest your article last week concerning the falling cliff at St Margaret's Bay.

However, I believe some of the information provided is not fully correct.

You stated someone from the National Trust said "frozen water first weakened the cliff and the winds then caused the rock to fall".

I would suggest the main factor involved in the cliff fall is the constant erosion by the sea, which undercuts the cliffs.

The seeping of rain water into the chalk, followed by its expansion on freezing probably contributed, but to a much lesser degree.

If the latter is the main factor in causing the damage, why do large cliff falls not happen in the bay?

Surely the reason is the protection offered by the sea wall, so the cliffs here do not suffer from the action of the sea waves.

Anyone visting can see the protected cliffs are covered in vegetation and look very different to those on either side.

You also mention in the article "the cliff fall is part of a process of natural regeneration". This implies the chalk cliffs are capable of making more cliffs.

It would probably have been clearer if you had stated the cliff fall is the process that keeps the cliffs looking white.

Colin Sumner, St Margaret's Bay

Geo tech only real solution

A RECENT opinion poll showed that concern about climate change has dropped dramatically in the last three years.

The problem has not gone away, and we are learning more and more about how catastrophic the consequences are likely to be. So why are people less concerned than they used to be?

I suspect it's because people feel that nothing can be done.

We have had two decades of international conferences and resolutions, but greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise.

People think that effective action will never be taken on a global scale, and that there is no point in reducing our own emissions if other individuals and countries won't.

It's true the attempts to cut emissions have failed, but unfortunately it's not true climate change doesn't matter.

So what is the solution?

Some argue that energy conservation and the development of alternative energy sources will solve the problem.

However, these would only combat climate change if their use led to large quantities of easily accessible oil, gas and coal remaining in the ground unused.

Surely, the truth is that conservation and alternative energy will simply allow the world's economy to keep expanding, as we use them as well as fossil fuels, not instead.

The only solution is geo-engineering; using technology to remove greenhouse gases from the atmosphere and to artificially cool the planet.

Geoengineering consists of carbon dioxide removal which addresses the cause of climate change by extracting the greenhouse gas from the atmosphere, and solar radiation management which addresses the warming caused by greenhouse gases by reflecting the sun's light and heat away.

The Royal Society has stated that "geoengineering is very likely to be technically possible" and has produced a major report looking at different methods. Now governments need to procure the money so scientists can carry out large-scale research.

This is the only politically feasible way to prevent the disastrous consequences of climate change, and should be the UK government's top priority.

Please write to your MP at the House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA or via www.theyworkforyou.com, and ask them to support geoengineering.

Richard Mountford, Hildenborough

Stop cashing in on our food

HIGH food prices are a serious problem worldwide.

People on lower incomes in the UK are having to cut back their weekly grocery shopping, while in poorer countries high food prices can be a matter of life or death.

The changing climate and the increasing use of food crops for biofuels are part of the problem.

But financial speculation by banks and hedge funds is also fuelling food price rises, often pushing them higher than supply and demand can explain.

The World Development Movement is calling for strict regulation to curb food speculation. We need to make sure the finance sector stops making easy money.

Stella Wood, Maidstone

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(T&C's below)

ABBY is a passionate sexy girl seeking some fun times. **Tel: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 373603**

DELILAH 49, likes animals, blonde, blue eyes, seeking older gent, late 70's who is kind and willing to care about me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403769**

JACQUELINE 82, widow, car driver, not slim, ugly or neurotic, seeks interesting, caring gent, 70 plus for talk and company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403659**

ANNA very lonely divorced single mum with lots of love to give seeks similar caring male who also wants to find the right person, any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403481**

LISA 39yr old tall slim blonde with GSOH and a wicked sense of humour, employed, OHAC, looking for similar male who enjoys life as much as I do. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403391**

BEV very attractive lady who loves cosy nights in, seeks caring man who can put the spring back in my step and twinkle back in my eye, call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403353**

SHAY 39 looking for fun loving male to brighten up my world! There must be someone out there prepared to take on a feisty attractive professional with OHAC, money in the bank and a great body! **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403341**

FEMALE young 60, petite, outgoing, sociable, looking for someone special to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403423**

CAROL, discreet, married, 47yrs seeks man for fun times. **Tel: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 400499**

JACQUELINE widow, 82, easy-going, not ugly or neurotic, good listener, caring, loyal, seeks gent, 60-80 for conversation, company and outings. Sevenoaks, car driver. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403397**

SHARON 37yr old size 10 attractive feminine blonde, divorced with OHAC, seeks nice male who like me is fed up with being on their own. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403351**

KATHY genuine good/young looking lonely female, fit with good figure, seeking man to fall in love with, enjoy adult companionship and happy times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403349**

VICKY petite size 16, attractive, caring, genuine and very much single, likes varied interests, WLTM kind genuine N/S male 40-55yrs for dates hopefully more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403343**

LOUISE blue eyed pretty brunette, size 12, OHAC, professional, enjoys good conversation, looking for someone to make me happy again. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403335**

DIVORCED female, 66, blue eyes, 5ft 4ins, medium build, blonde hair, seeks male, 65-75 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403275**

21YR old slim figured female, no ties, looking for male 30-45yrs for non committed relationship, discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402761**

CHRIS petite attractive brunette, enjoys social drinks, meals out, theatre, seeks hardworking professional male looking for adult attention too. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402759**

MARGARET 57, looking for male companionship with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390248**

JOYCE 82, widow, seeking man who is fun loving and good humoured for meals out, 60-70's. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393067**

NICKY 45, 5ft 2ins, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for genuine male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389774**

COUNTRY loving outgoing female, blue eyes, 5ft 2ins, genuine, caring, intelligent, seeks honourable, smart, professional male, 68-75 to share laughter and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392899**

SINGLE mum, new to Canterbury, 37, attractive, blonde, seeking soul mate, preferably with car. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397751**

LYN happy, young looking 72yr old, seeking interesting man, 65 plus to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403101**

LADY 57, away with the fairies, looking for her wizard and enchantment. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403093**

59YR old Kent lady, bubbly, large build, dog lover, easy-going, GSOH, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403071**

JAYNE 44 bored, underappreciated pretty blue eyed intelligent lady seeking fun and interesting professional in similar situation to me for discreet fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403011**

CLAIRE looking for adventurous male to live life to the max and enjoy adult fun times with. Go on give me a call. Any age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402993**

GILL 41, shy, lonely single country loving female with no ties, OHAC WLTM n/s genuine, confident male companion for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402799**

AMANDA 36yr old single female, blue eyes, curvy, really pretty with lovely smile, loves music, nights out, WLTM loving male for dates and hopeful ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402787**

PICK AN ADVERT AND MAKE A DATE TODAY!

5FT female, brown hair, 39, single mum, seeks caring, dedicated guy. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397915**

SHIRLEY 32 attractive nurse, enjoys good food/wine, keeping fit, looking good, searching for non committed relations with mature well-dressed man. Any age/looks/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402779**



*18+ Only. Texts to 65125 cost £1.50/msg. min of 2 msgs. To STOP text STOP to 65125 See t/cs below

LIZ blonde blue eyed curvy female, considered attractive, tactile, sensual, enjoys music, entertaining, nice people, seeking well educated professional 50-60yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402773**

JO 29 tall slim female who loves soaps, animals, shopping, being a mum and am looking for 40's male with GSOH who will appreciate a tactile, loving female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402765**

52YR old female, single mum of 2, seeking honest, caring, decent man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389891**

SUSIE young 55, slim, 5ft 3ins, seeks tall, honest guy from Medway towns. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389027**

LISA 5ft 2ins, 43, average build plus a few pounds, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for man for dates. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401421**

60YR old black female, sociable, seeks romantic, articulate white male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402523**

REBECCA kind, caring, honest, lonely, seeking older gent to wine and dine me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402273**

JAN 54, petite, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394382**

CAROLINE 60, 5ft 2ins, likes animals, walks, travel, gardening, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402067**

DANCE partner sought by lady beginner in ballroom and Latin American dancing, ideally 55 plus, to visit local dances for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401333**

47YR old female, fun loving, green eyes, likes most things, seeks N/S male, 47-52 with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401287**

LINDA young 62, smoker, seeking gent, 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400521**

SINGLE mum, 35, white British, 5ft 2ins, varied interests, looking for male to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400329**

FEMALE seeks Prince Charming, 20-30 to sweep her off her feet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392891**

BLACK African lady, late 30's, no ties, likes country walks, gardening, cinema, seaside, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393272**

DEBBIE 50, seeking man, 60 plus with GSOH for fun nights out and cosy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398173**

MARY 62, fun loving, enjoy most things, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, green eyes, size 14, lives alone in country, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385189**

MIRANDA early 60's, sociable, friendly, seeking similar N/S solvent, presentable, easygoing male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394843**

YOUNG looking lady, late 50's, medium build, caring, intelligent, seeks kind, caring, intelligent man with GSOH of similar age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398095**

MICHELLE petite fun female, outgoing, enjoys holiday abroad, OHAC and pretty self-sufficient, looking for someone to share a LTR with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399515**

SENSUAL female looking to enjoy life a little more, seeking likeminded male to enjoy interesting conversations over dinner, hopefully furthering our experience. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399195**

BLACK beautiful female, 5ft 7ins, likes most things in life, seeks special male for companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398391**

SANDRA outgoing 53, carer, seeks male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390230**

48YR old female, kind, loving, caring, genuine, fun loving, loves music, singing, theatre, holidays, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387797**

FEMALE looking for male for friendship and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392365**

HAPPY young looking 71yr old female, likes life, fit, active, seeks male, 60 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393065**

LOUISE loving, caring, thoughtful lady, likes photography, countryside, animals, seeks mature, N/S, genuine, caring, N/S gent with car to settle down with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397239**

Men Seeking

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

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THANET male, young mid 60's, caring, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, likes travel, countryside, seeks slim, attractive local soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403729**

PRETTY petite lady sought by older, professional businessman, looking for LTR and loyalty. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394530**

SALVATORE 68, N/S, widow, Italian, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402481**

KEVIN 49, single dad, employed, good cook/laugh, seeks female for fun and good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402405**

CHRIS 58, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271**

EDDIE African male, seeking female, 20-40 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394354**

BLACK male, 50, bubbly personality, seeks buxom, pear shaped, rubinesque white female, 25-55 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402887**

70YRS young male, good looking, GSOH, seeking lady for love and affection. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403455**

RONALD 65 plus, 5ft 9ins, slim, sociable, GSOH, tactile, N/S, many interests, seeking lady dance partner to learn ballroom and Latin. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403211**

EASY-GOING guy, medium build, likes outdoors, DIY, seeking slim, N/S guy for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403267**

SWANSEA man, 51, 5ft 6ins, slim, seeks slim female for nights in/out, company, walks, talks and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402033**

TED 63, 5ft 7ins, average build, seeks female 55-75 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401913**

ANDY 36, sexy, fun, come say hello. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402903**

BRUCE likes meals out, romantic walks, days out, seeking lady, 40-60 for friendship and fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403097**

TONY 50, likes nights in/out, football, fishing, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394506**

BRIAN fun loving, happy go lucky, likes walks, animals, cuddles, nights in/out, seeking loving, caring female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402729**

BLACK British male, African descent, medium build, varied interests, understanding, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402641**

ROBERT medium build, single, seeks nice, attractive, busty female with sexy clothes. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402597**

BUILDER 43, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, easy-going, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402531**

YOUNG mixed race male, seeking female for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402499**

AARON 35, no ties, 5ft 9ins, clean shaven, attractive, Italian background, chef, down to earth, open minded, likes meals out, weekends away, socialising, cinema, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402497**

5FT 7ins white male, 50, N/S, looking to settle down. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401897**

AVERAGE male, 50's, large build, broadminded, OHAC, GSOH, naturist novice, smoker, seeks petite/medium build lady for relationship. Must be uninhibited, broadminded and mature. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401887**

PETE 55, good looking, 6ft 2ins, own hair, seeking attractive female, 45-60 for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394294**

GENUINE fun loving guy 55, medium build, blue eyes, seeks genuine lady, 45-57 for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401761**

GRAHAM 52, N/S, likes days out, antique fairs, animals, seeks slim, attractive, N/S lady, 40-50 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401727**

BUILDER 43, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, easygoing, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401595**

TALL 64yr old young at heart N/S male, widower, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401531**

TONY retired, GSOH, likes indoor life, dvds, seeking N/S lady, 65 plus, likes countryside for friendship. West Sussex area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401481**

BARRY 49, 6ft, well built, easygoing, seeks female to wine/dine and have fun times with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401401**

THANET male, smart, young, mid 60's, caring, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, likes travel, countryside, seeks slim, attractive, local soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401399**

SLIM 67yr old male, fit, loving, 5ft 7ins, blue eyes, independent, sociable, easygoing, enjoys usual, seeks honest lady to share it all with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401245**

CHRIS 51, looking for young female, 25-42, white, slim, N/S for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401395**

HANDCUFFS and whips. Male 49, seeks younger, slim-medium build female for fun times. Chatham. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401365**

PROFESSIONAL male, early 40's, OHAC, likes most things, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401361**

GENT 49, romantic, caring, reliable, fun, seeks nice lady friend with same attributes, who has also been badly let down. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401353**

TIM own car/flat, seeks N/S lady 60-70's for holidays, companionship etc. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401351**

Gay Seeking

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

IF YOU'RE LOOKING to connect and chat with other men look no further TXT: **GAY601** to **65125** for 3 chat matches, fun and safe service. **(T&C's below)**

Go online - www.localgay-date.co.uk

BI male, senior, clean-shaven, Maidstone area, seeks bi male, N/S for occasional meets, must be discreet, 45-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402393**

DAVID 66, retired, fit, looking for man, 50-75 for daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402249**

STEVEN 63, looking for LTR with man, 59 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402147**

BI guy 45, seeking similar bi guy for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402093**

Friendship

STRAIGHT female, 48, Ashford, seeks pals for socialising, likes pubs, cinema, country walks with dogs and swimming. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403171**

MALE early 80's, fit, active, many interests, seeks similar male for friendship and company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401621**

JACK mature male, Thanet area, seeks friends of either sex, any age for chats. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399455**



Women TEXT FOR FUN!

*see t&c's below. No meetings implied or guaranteed. **Texts cost £1.50** per message Help Desk: **0844 445 7707**

GUYS TEXT FOR FUN. SEND INDP followed by the box number of the person you wish to chat to and send to **66888**
(T&C's below)

NURSE, mid 20's, blonde and curvy is bored, Text her! **Text INDP 204698 to 66888**

GLAM Gran, mid 50's, home babysitting and would love to chat to you. **Text INDP 205100 to 66888**

BORED and lonely, home alone all day, give me something to brighten up the lonely hours. **Text INDP 205026 to 66888**

ASIAN female, wants chats with white man. Interested to learn English ways.**Text INDP 204765 to 66888**

SINGLE mum, kids at school all day, would love some fun chats. **Text INDP 205285 to 66888**

JASMINE, exotic beauty, text me what you like and I will text back. **Text INDP 204668 to 66888**

NATALIE, foreign beauty hopes a nice working man will send her a text. She is home alone. **Text INDP 204600 to 66888**

SENSITVIE, romantic lady seeks a compassionate man to swap texts with. I have a good ear and happy to listen. **Text INDP 205422 to 66888**

LINDSEY, available to chat, send her a text. She promises to text everyone back. **Text INDP 205034 to 66888**

SALLY, student, 20yrs, needs an escape from the boredom. **Text INDP 204570 to 66888**

BIG is best, cuddly lady seeks skinny men. Call, whatever you look like, how will I know! **Text INDP 205069 to 66888**

SUE, sporty and fun , why not chat with me. **Text INDP 205455 to 66888**

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Show offers the time of your life

Join Baby and Johnny as they fall in love in touring performance of Dirty Dancing

By **GREG MILES**

DANCING, fantastic music and the story of first love – it's no wonder that Dirty Dancing has been selling out theatres across the globe since moving to the stage seven years ago.

This week the smash-hit production based on the cult 1987 film starring Patrick Swayze started a 19-date stopover at Canterbury's Marlowe theatre as part of its UK tour.

It has become the biggest touring production to visit The Marlowe in the theatre's history, with almost 25,000 people already booked in for the visit.

It is expected that on Wednesday, April 10, the millionth ticket since this tour began in September 2011 will be sold, and it could well go to someone from Kent. Everyone who buys a ticket that day will be entered into a prize draw (see details in box).

Being a part of such a well-loved story comes with a certain amount of responsibility, as Nicky Griffiths, who plays Penny Johnson, explained.

"I watched the film millions of times when I was younger," she said. "Because I was a dancer as a child I wanted to be Penny. Cynthia Rhodes [who played the character in the film] was the most beautiful dancer. It's such an opportunity to play one of your idols. I can't deny, this has been one of my dream roles since I was a child."

'You can see the audience shushing as Johnny arrives for the famous line'

Jill Winternitz, who plays Frances 'Baby' Houseman, agreed: "Because of the audience expectation and how much they love the story, that becomes a responsibility to deliver, and not to be carbon-copies of the film. We need to do it our way and be something different."

But with decades between now and when it hit the big screens at the end of the 80s, how has it become such a success on the stage?

Winternitz said: "I think it has to do with the themes, the underdog themes – she [Baby] has to learn this dance and overcome challenges, and it's a classic love story. We can all relate to that in some way. Everyone can see themselves in that.

"It's a coming-of-age story with Baby and her father, going from daughter to young adult, how they clash and have a more mature relationship."

The interest is also crossing over from generation to generation, with a wide demographic flooding to the theatre, often for the first time, says 32-year-old Griffiths: "You see a lot of generations in the audience, mothers and children, grandmothers and groups of woman, people recalling their first romance. For me it's all about the love story.

"It is a hugely successful show. Where the film is so loved, it's a treat to start the show and the minute the drum-beat goes for the first song they are up clapping – they go with it from the start. To be part of that and the excitement is brilliant."

That audience participation plays a big part in making it such a great live spectacle, says 26-year-old Winternitz: "People have their favourite scenes – it gets a lot more electric. You can hear the audience shushing each other as they see Johnny arrive for the famous line. It's an amazing feeling to be a part of that.

"It brings first-time theatre-goers to the show – it's not just the season-ticket-bookers. People do come from further afield."

However, the pressure to perform the dance moves away from the show can have its cringeworthy moments, especially when (I've Had) The Time Of My Life comes on during nights out.

"The number of days and evenings I've asked friends to test me on my lines – playing ideas off friends is helpful," said Griffiths. "If you're ever in a nightclub and they put on Time Of My Life, we all shy away. Because everyone knows you're a dancer, the expectation is that you do something incredible."

The fact that the show continues to be a big draw is obviously good news for The Marlowe, which has just finished its first financial year following the refurbishment that finished in October 2011.

Theatre director Mark Everett said: "This has been a fantastic success for us and something we couldn't have done in the old building – we have brought the West End to Canterbury.

"What's particularly pleasing is that 45 per cent of the audience have never attended a show at The Marlowe and will be enjoying our superb theatre for the very first time."

If you buy a ticket on Wednesday, April 10, you will automatically be entered into a prize draw to win a luxury VIP experience alongside your trip to the theatre, including a hotel stay, dinner, interval drinks and a meet-and-greet with the cast.



Pictures: TIM STUBBINGS

TICKET SALES

Before Dirty Dancing even opened in London at the Aldwych Theatre in 2006, it had sold out for the first six months.

The advance ticket sales of £15 million became a West End record. In total it has taken more than £40m in sales on the UK tour since 2011.

It has been seen by six million people worldwide and broke European advance ticket-sale records in Germany in 2006.

Dirty Dancing plays at The Marlowe in Canterbury until Saturday, April 20. For details and to book, visit www.marlowetheatre.com or phone 01227 787787.



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Double the fun as Seann and Josh go wild on their tour of adventure



COMIC TALES: Seann Walsh, above, and Josh Widdicombe have combined their tours and are heading this way

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

IT is a good job Josh Widdicombe and Seann Walsh are friends, otherwise touring the country on a double bill would make life a tad testing – especially as the latter can't drive.

The comedy pair are set for Margate's Theatre Royal next Saturday and both are looking forward to delivering some finely-honed material.

Widdicombe, a star of Channel 4's The Last Leg, has perfected The Further Adventures Of.... tour since August, while Walsh, who has appeared on Live At The Apollo, has put together a 'greatest hits that aren't yet hits' package in his Seann To Be Wild show.

Both admit that going solo was not an option.

"It's good fun – if he wasn't my mate, it would be a nightmare," said Widdicombe. "I couldn't tour on my own – I would get very lonely. You need someone there or you get stir-crazy. You need someone to slag off Radio 2 with when you're driving.

"You certainly get to know people slightly too well on tour."

The duo first met in 2008 during a comedy competition in which 26-year-old Walsh, originally from Brighton, fared better than Widdicombe – much to his delight.

"Me and Josh got to the final together in 2008," said Walsh. "I came second and he didn't get placed, so you make your own mind up about who's the funnier one.

"We've not been on a journey together because I don't want to be the sort of person who says that, but we did Stand Up Of The Week, then Live At The Apollo – it's really nice to have each other and someone to relate to.

"Even though we're different, we do find we have the same sense of humour, so we have a good time. People confuse us now and again – people think I'm Josh. I've had it once where someone asked me what my name was and another day they thought I was Josh all day. It doesn't help that we're both very nasally."

Widdicombe, who is from Devon but now lives in London, has been working on his show since last summer.

"It's well worked now," he said. "I've been doing the show since August, so it should be funny, I hope. I think as a stand-up the moment you become confident, that's when it all goes wrong."

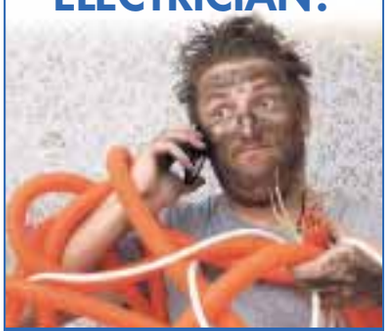
Aside from his touring, Widdicombe has been a guest on The Last Leg on Channel 4, originally commissioned to run alongside the Paralympics. However, it was so successful that it came back for a Christmas special and subsequent second series, which finished last month.

"I like doing a job where there are different things – it's a refreshing change," he said. "It's nice to have a break and do a bit of stand-up. If I did anything for too long I would get annoyed. It's so much fun to do as a show. It's the most fun I've had in any job. We just sit back and think of something stupid and then make it happen. It's a one-off idea that's gone out of control, and I'm quite happy with that."



■ **Seann Walsh and Josh Widdicombe are at Theatre Royal Margate on Saturday, April 13. Tickets are priced at £13 (restricted view £11). Visit www.theatreroyalmargate.com or phone 01843 292795 for tickets.**

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Happy days for park leopards... and you

VISITORS to Howletts Wild Animal Park can enjoy improved views of the resident Chinese leopards thanks to a new glass-fronted enclosure.

The public can watch the animals, which now have high platforms and climbing poles on which to play, through the glass frontage. Built by Jacksons Fencing, the enclosure also has an open top.

Animal director Neil Spooner said: "This new enclosure is great for the leopards – they can be as high as they like or hide away. I quite often see one of them on the highest platform looking out over the rest of the park.

"Leopards occupy the largest geographical range of any species of cat. They are found throughout Africa, Asia, the Arabian peninsula, north into China and the Russian Federation. Sadly, the north Chinese leopard is now restricted to small fragmented populations in northern China."

Howletts, just outside Canterbury, is one of only two parks in the country hosting Chinese leopards, which have a darker coat and different markings to other leopards.

Tilbrook leads more than 100 acts in county town's five-day music festival

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

THE Maidstone Fringe Festival is set for its biggest and best year yet, with Squeeze lead singer Glenn Tilbrook and the Kast Off Kinks, featuring three original members of The Kinks, headlining the weekend.

The festival, in its third year, was started with the aim of promoting Kent music in the county town, and its popularity has seen more than 100 acts confirmed for the five-day event in May.

More venues than ever are involved, with The Exchange Studio at the Hazlitt Arts Centre getting on board, which is music to the ears of organiser Clive Austen, who is promoting the festival through the Make Some Noise recording studio in the town.

"It's the first time we have used the Corn Exchange [Hazlitt], which gives us more space, and we have more established names," he said. "There are also some bigger Kent bands playing who have had albums out and have had national recognition.

"What I see with a lot of other festivals in Kent is they bring in a lot of local musicians to get the thing networked and it all turns around and ends up being agency bands, and the smaller people who have built it up are ignored.

"The idea of the fringe is to get all the venues in Maidstone together and do something along the lines of the Sweeps Festival or the Broadstairs festival with a music remit. We have everything from indie to alternative rock to folk and metal bands.

"We have lots of bands approaching us about it now – more than 100 this year and we are already at capacity.

The event runs from Thursday to Monday, May 2-6, and features such popular acts as Vince Vortex & The Cucumbers, One Day Elliott, The Len Price 3, Burning Shapes, The Estimators, Toot'n'Skamen and The Kix.

Tilbrook will be playing a solo acoustic gig on Friday, May 3, at The Exchange Studio, while the Kast Off Kinks, featuring original Kinks members including drummer Mick Avory, will play at the same venue on Saturday, May 4.

Visit www.maidstonefringe.co.uk for more.

Picture: DANNY CLIFFORD



STILL A CAT: Glenn Tilbrook, the lead singer of Squeeze, will be appearing in Maidstone for the fringe festival taking place over the May bank-holiday weekend

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Bookseller invites you to read before you buy on latest app

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

A CHATHAM publisher has broken new ground by embracing the digital age with its first app.

Caffeine Nights Publishing, which deals with fiction, has tapped into the iPad market with its free programme that gives subscribers the chance to flick through its new books, find out about authors and get involved through social media.

Three chapters of each book in the catalogue are available for browsing through the app, which chief executive Darren Laws says has already had an impact since launching two weeks ago.

"We have already managed to increase our sales," he said. "We are still waiting for our first results to come in, but we have good anecdotal feedback from customers."

High-street retailers and the big publishers are also utilising apps, but few, if any, are putting their whole catalogues in the public domain, says Laws, who had tried to venture into mobile phones when his company started in 2007.



READ ALL ABOUT IT: Darren Laws

"We would like to expand the app on to other formats, but at the moment it's just available on the iPad. We have to do things within budget," he said.

"We were the first publisher in the UK to sign a contract back in 2007 to have our content put on mobile phones. However, that never came to fruition because of the technology at the time.

"The free app is also designed with film and TV and foreign-rights agents in mind. It really is a simple way to present our catalogue of titles and introduce our authors.

"We want whoever downloads the app to get a real taste of our books and feel they can engage with the authors through the social-media links.

"Making our entire catalogue available through an app makes perfect sense.

"We want readers to try before they buy and the app is the equivalent of a modern-day book store.

"Readers can sample every book and look at the great artwork on each cover, giving them a real sense of what the books are about."

To find the app, search Caffeine Nights in the iTunes store.

The publisher is hoping to sign up several new authors during the next couple of months.

District 3 have the answers at gig



X-FACTOR boyband District 3 have announced a date at Folkestone's Quarterhouse this summer.

The trio have added extra dates to their UK tour due to demand and will appear at Quarterhouse on Saturday, June 1.

The group, who mix R'n'B, hip-hop and pop, are writing and recording their debut album in London and Los Angeles, material from which will feature in their Folkestone date.

Their performance, which starts at 7pm, will include a one-hour show and a Q&A session afterwards.

Tickets are priced at £17.50 and on sale via www.quarterhouse.co.uk or by phone on 01303 858500.



Director Danny does Dungeness

DUNGENESS is again on the big screen, this time in Danny Boyle's new thriller Trance.

Boyle, director of Slumdog Millionaire and the opening ceremony at the London Olympics, chose the location for a scene in his new film about a fine-art auctioneer who gets tangled up in a plot to steal a valuable work of art.

The film, starring James McAvoy from X-Men, and Rosario Dawson, from Sin City, uses Dungeness for a dream sequence in which McAvoy and Vincent Cassel fight on the beach. The footage was shot back in 2011.

Dungeness has been used in a number of high-profile films and videos recently, including a music video for pop-star Nicki Minaj.

The film hit the cinemas in March.



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Here's your chance to step into the beating heart of an orchestra

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk





AN ART installation designed to immerse visitors into the inner workings of an orchestra is coming to Canterbury.

The Universe Of Sound, run by The Marlowe Theatre's resident group the Philharmonia Orchestra, will be on show at Canterbury Christ Church University's Augustine House for two weeks in April and May.

Using interactive software, giant projection screens, tutorial videos and a planetarium-style full-dome experience, visitors will be able to learn how an orchestra works and sounds instrument by instrument.

The installation proved a huge hit at London Science Museum last summer, when more than 67,000 people visited it. Canterbury is the first stop on a worldwide tour that takes in Salzburg in Austria and Los Angeles in the United States.

The music for the installation features Gustav Holst's The Planets, which was performed by 105 musicians and recorded in a single day by 37 cameras last year.

Philharmonia's principal conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen came up with the idea. He said: "This project offers everyone, from the young to old, from the novice to the experienced musician, the chance to step right into the heart of one of the world's finest symphony orchestras."

It follows on from the orchestra's RE-RITE project, which ran in London from 2009 and also used interactive technology, allowing visitors to take part in and listen to their performance of The Rite Of Spring.

The orchestra's head of digital, Richard Slaney, said: "This is the perfect fusion of digital technology and the arts. We learnt through RE-RITE that, far from being an elitist artform, there is a colossal public enthusiasm for experiencing classical music and stepping inside a real orchestra.

"This project is five times as ambitious and 10 times as exciting. We can't wait to show people how thrilling a live orchestra really is."

There is free admission to the project, which is supported by The Marlowe Theatre, Kent Music, Soundhub, the Sounds New Festival and Canterbury City Council.

It will be in Canterbury from Saturday, April 27, until Sunday, May 12. You can visit www.universeofsound.co.uk to find out more.

FAB FOUR

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Saturday, April 13, 2pm
Phone: 01304 241806 (Bernadette)
Web: www.whitecliffscountryside.org.uk
Spring walk: Over rolling countryside. Meet at Wingham car park (TR246574). Children aged over seven are welcome. Suggested donation of £1 to White Cliffs Countryside Partnership.

Tower Theatre, Shorncliffe
Tuesday, April 16, 8.30pm
Phone: 01303 277175
Email: dwoodland05@aol.com
Jimmy Hastings with the Frances Knight Trio: Hastings is the gentleman of British jazz and probably our most experienced saxophonist. Also Kent's No 1 lady jazz-pianist. Tickets £8.

The Gulbenkian, Canterbury
Thursday, April 11, 7.30pm
Phone: 01227 769075
Website: www.thegulbenkian.co.uk
The Searchers: The band are celebrating their 50th anniversary. Expect classics like Don't Throw Your Love Away and When You Walk In The Room. Tickets £19.50 (students £19.50).

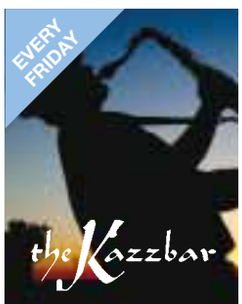
The Roffen Club, Rochester
Wednesday, April 10
Phone: 01634 365453
Website: www.144club.co.uk
Sammy Mayne: A regular with the BBC Big Band, sax-player Mayne has worked on Pop Idol and three of Katie Melua's albums. Tickets are £13, or £23 with a two-course meal.

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One place that hints at the future one town promises

RESTAURANT **REVIEW**

I like Age & Sons. So, I understand, do many of the Ramsgate *cognoscenti*, who gather here to discuss, I can only presume, matters of fine art, *haute cuisine*, politics and, doubtless, jazz. Maybe, maybe not, but if that's not what they talk about, then I feel they should. Because Age & Sons feels like that – it is the sort of place that the promotional puff tells us Ramsgate should be.

And while too much of the town still struggles to match the hype, there are enough venues to give encouragement that this town can yet develop into the gem that we have been promised for so long – and, I should add, it once was. Age & Sons is one of those venues.

We visited on a cold (obviously!) Thursday evening and were, perhaps unsurprisingly, one of just two pairs eating upstairs – there may have been others downstairs.

No matter, Floyd, our waiter, was attentive and happy to help us travel through the menu and at no point did we feel lost in space.

The menu needs mentioning. Good though the food is, the selection presented could do with a little more life. In truth, I hadn't eaten here for a couple of years and it may be that the menu has been changed or shuffled around in that time, but neither I nor my companion were struggling to choose from a range of irresistible



dishes. The pork loin and belly I recalled from previous visits as excellent, while the sirloin steak (any steak!) always tempts, wherever I am, but it was, suffice to say, a done deal when Floyd emerged at the top of the stairs and told us that the marsh lamb had just arrived. We both had marsh lamb.

This was tender and tasty and lay on a bed of marsh samphire. The accompanying new potatoes (in skins) were excellent, the mint sauce good, the greens a little less inspiring.

Lamb is my favourite meat – put it on a plate with new potatoes and mint and you can't go far wrong. But I was, if I'm honest, just a little disappointed – as, indeed was my companion, a local foody of some repute.

It had a good taste and was tender, as I said, but it just felt a little flat and we both felt we could have cooked it to a similar level ourselves. Also, more meat would have been welcome, the bone comprising a substantial part of the cut.

This, I should stress, is not a huge criticism – the overall experience was just fine. I had started with pigeon pithivier (think winged beef Wellington) and Waldorf salad and my companion beetroot arancini with butternut-squash escabeche, radicchio and garlic aioli. Both dishes were top-drawer, as was the Jerusalem artichoke and truffle amuse-bouche.

A shared affogato and cheeseboard rounded things off, while a delightful bottle of Costières de Nîmes contributed to a final bill of £78.95.

Age & Sons continues to be a front-runner in Thanet's flourishing culinary field... a little springtime glitter would see it forge ahead. Like I said, I like Age & Sons.

Dave Mairs

■ **Age & Sons, Charlotte Court, Ramsgate CT11 8HE (telephone 01843 851515; website www.ageandsons.co.uk)**

Chef Dev becomes a money-saving expert

THE chef at the award-winning Ambrette restaurant in Margate has been recruited as a guest expert in Channel 4's new money-saving show SuperScrimpers.

Dev Biswal, who usually specialises in creating Indian cuisine, will now help the UK public with tips and advice on how to feed a family or friends without breaking the bank.

Last week the Thanet chef went shopping and cooked a three-course gourmet meal for eight guests for under £20.

He also gave tips on what to look out for when buying local and what ingredients were seasonal, making the most of local greengrocers, small traders and markets.

Spring food and drink market in Maidstone

IT will officially be spring in Maidstone when the annual food and drink market returns to the county town.

Based at Maidstone market in Barker Road, Lockmeadow, there will be plenty of stalls to peruse; they will be selling everything from local meat, fish and produce to clothes, pet accessories and furniture.

There will also be something for the youngsters, too, with a mini farm and Creepy Crawly Road Show to entertain.

The spring market is only open one day this week: Tuesday, April 9, from 7.30am-1.30pm. Entry to Lockmeadow is free.

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THE BEST OF CARE IN KENT

Loans and advice are available for young businesses as they prepare to develop into flourishing realities



A NEW Government measure has been put in place to assist those who want to start up in business.

Young people often find it difficult without any previous track record to obtain the essential funding to get their ideas off the ground, so support is now available for those aged between 18 and 30

It can also assist those who have an existing business that is still in the start-up phase and less than 12 months old.

The initiative aims to kick-start new businesses by providing funding and free business support and mentoring to help develop fledgling businesses, regardless of where they are in the development cycle.

Experienced business advisers will be on hand to offer guidance through the process – they can help take the germ of a business idea and look at how it can be turned it into reality.

They are available to work with young people to give the best possible advice for those who are keen to turn their ideas and dreams into fact but require help from someone with practical experience of running a company on a day-to-day basis in such things as accountancy, organisation, health and safety, structure and the law.

Loans are usually between £500 and £3,000, but can be higher depending on the business proposition and are repayable in terms of between three and five years. Applicants don't need to be working full-time on their business to apply for funding.

Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce is working with the Let's Do Business Group to deliver this new initiative to start-up and fledgling businesses in Kent.

Anyone who wants to find out how to make their business plan an exciting reality can phone the chamber on 01233 503838 and arrange for a free-of-charge meeting with one of its advisers.



Helping vulnerable people and those in need of a friend in times of loneliness and isolation

CANTERBURY Umbrella is a charity working with and for the people who have mental-health problems and for anyone in times of isolation, distress and loneliness.

It is located in a centre designed as a place where people can go and feel welcomed and supported.

The community building was opened in October 1992. It has a large meeting and dining room plus a fully-fitted kitchen downstairs. Upstairs is the Rotary Room, a large games area with pool and table-tennis, while a separate quiet room has internet access. This is in the process of being improved with better facilities for computer-users.

Since being established in 1988, the charity has helped more than 4,000 local people by providing a range of support and activities, from nutritious meals and refreshments to exercise, art classes, information and social engagement.

As a charity it relies on grants and donations from the public to fund work and the goodwill of volunteers, who make a vital contribution.

The busy Drop-In centre in St Peter's Place, Canterbury, is open to people aged over 18 with mental-health problems and those who feel lonely or isolated. Anyone can come and try the centre out for a couple of weeks before filling in a membership application form.

It offers reasonably-priced meals and snacks served in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere.

Opening times:
Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10am-4pm (set meal served at 12.30pm)
Tuesday and Thursday, midday-4pm (set meal served at 12.30pm)
Saturday, 10am-4pm (breakfast/brunch served from 10am-1pm)
Sunday 9.30am-1.30pm (set lunch served at 12.30pm)

Charity pampering event aids hospice that reaches out to 2,500 people every year across north Kent



A CHARITY event in aid of the EllenorLions Hospice in Gravesend is to be held on Saturday, April 13, from midday to 4pm at Higham Memorial Hall.

All entrance money goes to the hospice in Gravesend, which is close to so many people's hearts as it helps the critically ill in their final years.

The entrance fee to the pampering event is £2 per adult and most of the beauty treatments are priced below £10.

Stalls on show will offer treatments such as such as massage, Indian head massage, facials, teeth-whitening, aromatherapy, manicures, pedicures, gel nails, Hopi ear candles and reiki, while mediums and tarot readers will be on hand.

Visitors will be able to buy cakes, refreshments, jewellery, shabby-chic items and very much more.

EllenorLions Hospices provide all hospice care and a service for adults living in Dartford, Gravesham, Swanley and surrounding villages, while a children's and young people's service – 'chYps' – extends farther afield into Bexley, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells.

The Ellenor Foundation was founded in 1985 by Graham Perolls following the death of his mother and father – Ellen and Norman. The hospice was built following the receipt in 1983 of an anonymous donation of £200,000 and with additional funds raised by local Lions clubs.

Every week, EllenorLions provides hospice care in the family home for 300 adults and 100 children, while each year 250 people receive in-hospice care.

This means that in the course of a year it is in contact with more than 2,500 people who are helped in one way or another.

Its services cost about £5.8 million a year but are free of charge to patients. The vast majority of the money is raised by the local community.



Hundreds of companies have benefited from Basepoint in Folkestone over the past 11 years

BASEPOINT Folkestone has assisted more than 300 businesses in its commercial premises for 11 years.

Run by Lorraine May, left, the centre provides offices and workshops to small and medium-sized businesses.

It is flexible enough for the companies to stay from one month to up to more than a decade.

Facilities ranges from small units for one to two people through to larger units for more established businesses.

There are fully-functioning workshops and Basepoint facilities include free parking, high-speed internet access and a café and restaurant. The site is also close to the M20 and a few minutes' drive from Folkestone town centre.

More than 40 small businesses recently attended Basepoint for a talk on the importance of businesses taking responsibility for health and safety; optimisation of company websites was also covered.

Guest speakers included Mike Godden, of Enrich Training, and Sean Ferguson, from Top Of The Search.

In his talk on health and safety, Mr Godden explained the obligations that employers have to their employees through staff-training, the documenting of risk assessments and the legal requirements by which firms must abide.

Mr Ferguson then spoke about the importance of optimising websites for search engines, highlighting the need for the use of 'key words' so that search engines can pick up their listings.

Ms May said: "This month's event was a huge success with a great turnout, and the themes discussed were very beneficial to all of our attendees."

The next event is scheduled for Thursday, May 30. To book a place at the event, email folkestone@basepoint.co.uk.

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A ride on the Strathspey Steam Railway will take us away from the bustle of everyday life, through some of the most gorgeous highland scenery.

The Trossachs are where the Highlands and Lowlands meet. Here, charming Loch Katrine is truly one of Scotland's special places. Just as special as the magnificent scenery is the famous steamship – the Sir Walter Scott - which has been a landmark in the area for over 100 years. A cruise on this wonderful ship or on 'Lady of the Lake', is also included.

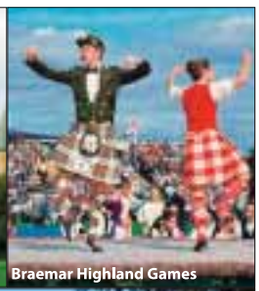
Further east, in the Royal Deeside area, we'll discover Glamis Castle - the Queen Mother's former home and a stunning architectural treasure that is full of vitality to this day (this visit only available on June tour).

In September we visit the Braemar Highland Games, the best celebration of Highlands tradition & sporting endeavour attended by members of the Royal Family.

INCLUDED:

- Escorted throughout
- Return rail travel from London Kings Cross to Pitlochry
- 5 nights half-board hotel stay in Pitlochry
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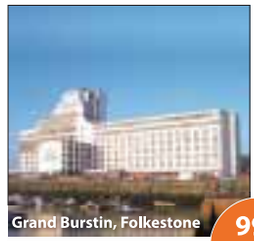
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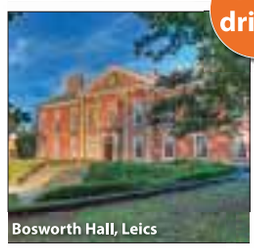
Guests can enjoy good food and en-suite bedrooms with TV and tea/coffee-making facilities. Selected hotels also provide evening entertainment.

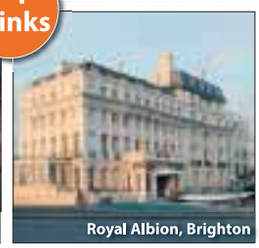
Perhaps best of all, Britannia Hotels offer excellent value for money.


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99p drinks


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Royal Albion, Brighton

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Bosworth Hall Leics	14, 22, 29 April; 6, 13, 20 May 12, 19 April; 31 May	4 3	£119 £109
Royal Albion Brighton	15, 22, 29 April	4	£119

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End of the line for toy firm chief executive

THANET-BASED model and toy company Hornby says its chief executive Frank Martin is to step down after 12 years – but he will remain in post while a successor is sought.

Preliminary reports for trading – issued ahead of a formal announcement to be made in June – say profits have been hit by the current economic situation, with sales of its Olympic-themed merchandise lower than forecast.

Mr Martin said: "Hornby has faced significant global challenges over the past few years. However, I believe we have laid the foundations to improve the performance of the group and deliver value to our shareholders as we continue to drive our outstanding portfolio of brands."

Chairman Roger Canham will oversee the new appointment. He said: "I am pleased the business is in a more stable shape going forward. Our supply chain is improving and our brands remain popular. I am satisfied that the steps we have taken will lead to an improved financial performance in the future."

Recycling plant to create 40 new jobs

RECYCLING company Recresco says it will create 40 new jobs with a new glass recycling plant in Northfleet.

The company says the plant will help increase turnover from £18 million a year currently to over £28m.

Its other aim is to increase export sales for its processed glass. This accounts for a quarter of sales presently, but that is expected to increase to around half when the new plant is operational.

Director Tim Gent said: "We learn something new from each plant we develop, so the Northfleet plant is the culmination of many years' experience and hard work.

"The South East is also a key market that we have been studying for a few years but now we feel is the right time to make the move."

The plant will be able to process up to 40 tonnes of glass per hour, removing impurities, so it can be re-used.

Finance came via a £5.5m cash injection from HSBC.



If you have a business story, **Nick Ames** would like to hear from you. Telephone him on **01303 817181**, or alternatively email **nick.ames@archant.co.uk** Follow us on Twitter @KOSbusiness

Back to the future as technical college trains next generation

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

MEDWAY is hoping to utilise roots from its industrial past as it aims to become a hub of emerging engineering talent.

And key to its progress is the Government's green light for a University Technical College (UTC).

This will become a vital part of the educational mix at secondary level, with a focus on engineering and construction being taught alongside a conventional syllabus.

Despite speculation the college will be sited at Brompton, it is believed it will eventually be based elsewhere in the towns, although a location has yet to be confirmed.

It should mean a fresh generation emerges at 18 with a strong focus on recreating the industrial excellence which was once synonymous with the area.

Built around the dockyard industry, the area has taken time to find its feet since the yard closed nearly 30 years ago. But with investment in education hope is returning.

Alan Reed is professor of engineering at the University of Greenwich and chair of the UTC Partnership behind the bid.

"This is what I would call a 'back to the future' project," he said.

"Medway has a rich industrial heritage but when the dockyard closed not only were jobs lost, but a lot of feeder industries suffered too.



ENGINEERING THE PAST: A nuclear submarine undergoing a refit

"We want to provide young people with the up-to-date skills needed by employers in these fields. Business will be at the heart of the UTC."

Cllr Les Wicks, a senior figure on Medway Council, has been one of the driving forces behind the bid.

He said: "The Government has stated that companies need trained engineers. We are about to start training up a skilled workforce, so we want to attract companies here, as happened in the past."

Cllr Wicks added: "I think there will be a lot of support for the new college among the older generation who remember how important the area was and how jobs were available. Medway's impact reached out to Maidstone, Swale and Gravesham, hopefully that will come again."

MidKent College principal Sue McLeod said: "We want to develop a UTC that will enable a degree of specialisation that is currently unavailable and which will re-engage and enthuse students."

The new facility will take on pupils aged 14 to 18 and projects will be run in conjunction with local businesses, in order to give students a background in the world of work. More than 100 pupils are expected to come into the college each year.

Backing comes from the University of Greenwich, MidKent College, Medway Council, the Royal Engineers and local firms including Denne, of Sittingbourne, BAE Systems, based at Rochester, BAM Construct UK, Delphi Diesel and Gainwell Futures, which specialises in energy generation.

Rochester and Strood MP Mark Reckless MP said: "We must now all work together to establish a first class vocational college to develop craft and technical skills for a new generation as the dockyard did for previous generations."

THE DOCKYARD

Officially recognised as a naval dockyard, Chatham came into action more than 400 years ago.

It has seen 500 warships built, including HMS Victory, Admiral Nelson's flagship at the Battle of Trafalgar. During World War Two, 16 ships were launched from its quayside and a total of 1,360 refits were carried out.

In the 1960s, the last ships were constructed, Oberon submarines. But it continued to service nuclear craft.

It closed in 1984.

Slow payments can have 'potentially serious implications'

POOR cash flow is the equivalent of a virus in the business world. You can be operating fine and making big deals, but if the money coming into the business is starved, then it can cripple or even kill.

According to recent research, small businesses in the county wait an average seven weeks for an invoice to be paid, putting immense strain on cash flow and threatening future trading.

It is estimated firms are owed on average £23,000 at any one time

Large customers are the worst offenders, say SMEs, with some one-off transactions only being settled months after the agreed date. Government contracts were also identified as being slow payers.

A survey by Clydesdale Bank says one in 10 small businesses believe they would be forced to drastically restructure their firm or even face closure if customers took 90 days to pay invoices.

And research from Bacs, the company behind Direct Debit and Bacs Direct Credit, showed that the region's many SMEs chasing bills were being told clients had either "forgotten to pay" or just "hadn't got around to it".

A knock-on effect occurred in many such cases, with the small firms themselves late in paying suppliers.

The retail and distribution sector is being hit the hardest, with almost 60 per cent of those surveyed saying they were being paid late, with average outstanding payments of £43,000.

Mike Hutchinson, head of marketing at Bacs, said: "Just short of a million of the country's smaller companies are facing a late payments burden, with potentially serious implications. On top of that, our research shows they can't rely on their customers meeting payment terms which they have set in the first place.

"Waiting weeks after a payment is due before receiving the money could be catastrophic for vulnerable companies, particularly when the economy is struggling and cash flow is key.

"We urge SMEs to look at where they can assert some control, automating payments wherever possible to save valuable time and administration costs, and removing some of the stress on the business and its owner."

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Deadline to enter national awards scheme closes at end of the month



COMPETITION: Will you enter?

APPRENTICES and employers are being encouraged to enter a competition to find the most valued trainees and the best companies to work for.

Nominations for the 2013 National Apprenticeship Awards competition close on April 26. Last year's event saw a strong showing from the county's companies and apprentices.

Regional winners included Nathan Simmons, a McDonald's hospitality and catering apprentice from Herne Bay, while Carl Cappuccini from Tunbridge Wells, a surveying apprentice at Greenfish Consulting, and Emily Williams from Maidstone, a business and administration apprentice at Kent County Council, were highly commended.

Representing the business side of the event housing association Moat was highly commended. To find out more visit apprenticeships.org.uk/awards.

Open day gets a taste of the financial options

THE world of finance was the subject of studies by students from the Cornwallis Academy in Linton, near Maidstone.

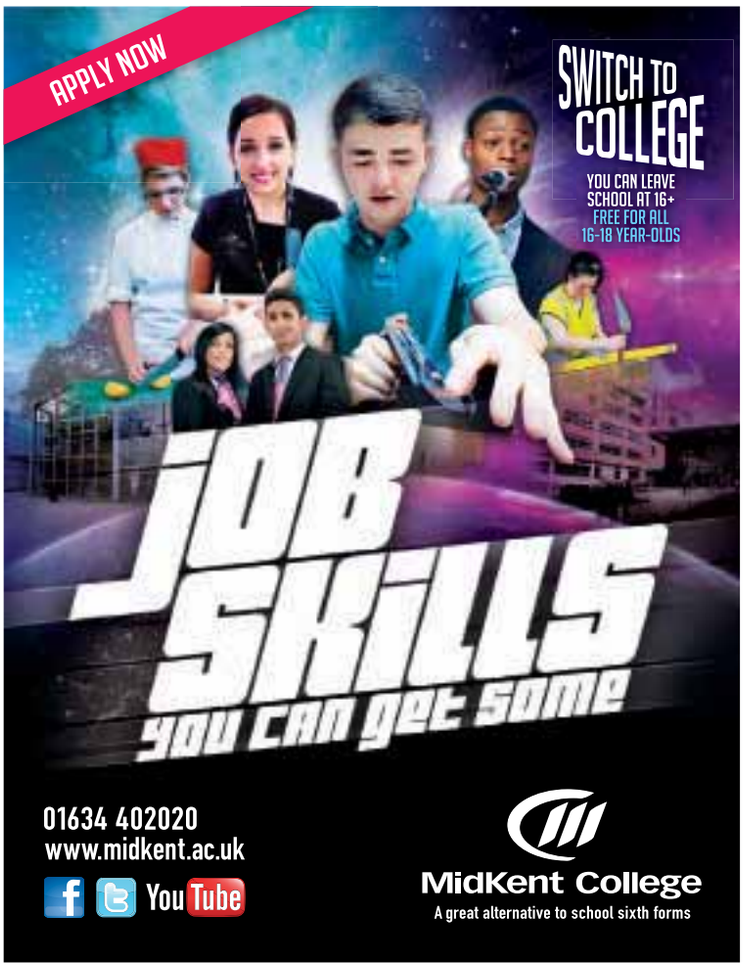
The Chartered Insurance Institute (CII) organised a games-style session as part of the college's careers day.

Andrea Barkaway, skills lecturer, said: "It made them think about financial planning as a possible career and about how money is spent as you get older and how much you have to earn for pensions and savings."

SMEs seek apprentices as part of future planning

SMALL and medium-sized businesses in the manufacturing field plan to focus their recruitment on apprentices and graduates, a new survey reveals.

It was put together by the Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS) and follows a Semta (Sector Skills Council for Science, Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies) report, which revealed an 85 per cent rise in the number of apprenticeship starts in engineering and advanced manufacturing.





APPOINTED: Sue McLeod is determined to lead by example as she takes over at MidKent College

History made as college unveils its new principal

MIDKENT College has appointed a female principal for the first time in its more than 100-year history.

Sue McLeod will take over the reins on September 1 - the start of the next academic year.

She replaces Stephen Grix who announced he was to step down in January, believed to be due to on-going ill health which forced him to be off work for several months last year.

Mr Grix is remaining to fulfil the role of chief executive until 2015. When he steps down from that job, Ms McLeod will assume that role in addition to principal.

It marks a remarkable climb through the ranks for Ms McLeod, who joined the college as a travel and tourism lecturer in 1993. Most recently she had been serving as deputy principal.

The Scottish-born educator, who lives in Medway, said she was delighted to be making a little bit of college history.

She explains: "It means a great deal to me and I hope it demonstrates to all our students that gender is no barrier to them achieving their goals in life.

"I studied at a further education college as a teenager and if it wasn't for the expertise and encouragement of the teachers there I would never have thought that going to university was even a possibility.

"That's why I'm so thrilled to have been given this opportunity to be principal of MidKent College and help transform the life chances of people throughout the surrounding areas.

"I'm a great believer that further education drives social mobility and that's something I'm very keen to promote."

Prior to joining the college, Ms McLeod worked across the Caribbean, United States and Europe during her time in the travel industry, including a stint aboard cruise liners.

She previously achieved a degree in business studies at the Dorset Institute of Higher Education – now Bournemouth University – where she returned to study travel and tourism prior to embarking on her teaching career with MidKent College.

The 51-year-old mother-of-one says her priorities as principal will include improving the employment prospects of students and strengthening the college's position at the heart of the community.

Ms McLeod added: "I also want to continue the improvements made in teaching and learning over the last few years.

"Thanks to advances in technology, learning resources are now widely available and opportunities for learning are abundant. It is important our teaching reflects this and the different ways in which people learn.

"The role of the teacher is increasingly about adding meaning and value to help students prepare for their future lives and careers."

Chairman of governors Sheila Potipher said: "It was very clear Sue was by far and away the best candidate and we are confident she will do a fantastic job."

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good-news story, email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or call us on 01303 817000.

Good housekeeping ensures another gold

A PRESTIGIOUS Investors in People (IiP) gold award has been awarded to the University of Kent for its Kent Hospitality service, which provides housekeeping, catering, bar and reception services for students.

It also manages residential accommodation on the university's Canterbury and Medway campuses for over 5,500 students

It has now become the first employer in the county to be reaccredited with the award. It was first recognised as an IiP organisation 14 years ago, before achieving its first gold in 2010.

The service was also commended for its commitment to staff development and training, its engagement with social responsibility programmes and activities such as apprenticeship schemes.

Achievements in the fields of health and safety in the workplace, and environmental issues including recycling were also recognised. Deputy vice-chancellor Denise Everitt added: "This tremendous achievement reflects a sustained determination to work with all staff to develop both their own performance and that of the whole department. This is reflected in the high standards that are maintained year after year."

Boost for the high street as major retailers live to fight another day

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

UNDER pressure high streets have been given a glimmer of hope with three of the high profile casualties of the economic slump showing signs of life.

Yet while there is some relief that the likes of film rental store Blockbuster, photo chain Jessops and music outlet HMV may not be a thing of the past, it is limited. Some stores will indeed shut, with more gaping holes appearing in our retail heartlands.

This week five branches of Blockbuster in the county were told they could keep on trading. Restructuring business Gordon Brothers Europe (GBE) has acquired 264 stores across the UK, including outlets in Dover, Folkestone Gravesend, Chatham and Margate.

But stores in Ashford, Sevenoaks, Tunbridge Wells, Maidstone, Rainham and Tonbridge will not be reopened.

Some Jessops stores could also return to trading following a deal involving Dragons' Den entrepreneur Peter Jones, who has ploughed in a £5 million investment to the camera store company. Details of shops to be saved have not yet been finalised.

A further boost to retail took place on Friday when restructuring experts Hilco announced a £50 million deal to save music chain HMV. Stores which remain open are set to have their future guaranteed and some outlets which have ceased trading could reopen under the deal.

Bill Moss of Maidstone's town centre management group said: "Maidstone is a strong retail centre, but empty buildings do not look good, they need filling.

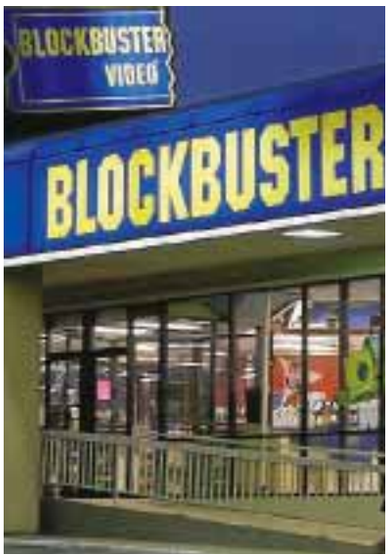
"I am confident we shall see the space occupied before not too long."

Blockbuster collapsed into administration in January, when it had 528 stores and a workforce of 4,190 staff.

But it will now be run by TS 1973 Investment Holdings Limited, a subsidiary of global private equity and investment company GBE, which has its European headquarters in London and has its base in Boston, in the US. No figures for the buy-out have been released.

Frank Morton, GBE chief executive, said: "We acknowledge the industry is in transition; we know we have a challenge ahead but there is still a market to be served.

"Blockbuster has a strong brand affinity and we believe that with the right mix of new product offering, new technologies, strategic management and marketing, we can bring new life to this high street staple."



SAVED: A number of Blockbuster outlets across Kent will continue trading on our high streets

DRAGON STEPS IN

Camera retailer Jessops, which collapsed in January under debts of £81m, will re-open its doors as part of plans to open up to 40 stores by the end of April.

Peter Jones, best known for his appearances on the BBC's Dragons' Den programme, bought the brand, stock and assets from administrator PwC as part of a joint venture with restructuring specialist Hilco, which has also been involved in saving a number of HMV stores, including those in Maidstone and Canterbury.

It had initially been thought the scaled-down Jessops would operate as an internet-only brand, but the plan is now to open a store each day this month. The retailer had premises in Ashford, Maidstone, Canterbury, Greenhithe, Tunbridge Wells and Bromley. Mr Jones said: "We've evaluated how we can cover the UK with roughly 40 stores to allow a collect-in-store model, which people want with products like ours because they are technical products."

GOOD SALES

Business analysts say a boosted high street performance is the best hope for the avoidance of a triple dip recession, as manufacturing continues to decline.

The number of shoppers in the south east increased by around three per cent over the Easter weekend and retail, which is classified as part of the service sector, continues to do well.

The British Retail Consortium says demand for goods is strengthening, but it is vital this is sustained throughout the rest of April.

Awards celebrate highly talented women

FEMALE big-hitters in the business community were celebrated at the first Kent Women in Business Awards.

Held at the Mecure Maidstone Great Danes Hotel in Hollingbourne, the event also saw the launch of a new magazine called Kent Women in Business.

Organiser Hilary Steel said: "I have come across some amazing women who are doing fantastic things for themselves, their families and their employees, and I wanted to celebrate that.

"I am delighted we were able to showcase some of Kent's finest female business stars, from business owners to career women and women working for non-profit organisations."

Winner of the Kent Women In Business 'excellence' title was Kristina Boulden of Romney Marsh Wools. Based on a farm, the company produces rugs and throws from the fleeces of its 1,000 sheep.

THE CATEGORY WINNERS

Start up Jo-Anna Francis, Maidstone Virtual Assistant. **Health and beauty** Talitta Wigg, Kent Detox. **Non-profit organisation** Betsy Aidinyantz, Joining Hands Kent. **Professional construction** Jeanette Post, RIFT Group. **Home-based (and the overall winner of the excellence title)** Kristina Boulden, Romney Marsh Wools. **SME** Emily Kettle, FACTS international. **Professional** Heather Nowak, Nova IT solutions. **Managerial** Emily Kettle, FACTS international. **Recruitment** Paula West, Scope HR Solutions.



Picture: SCHUMANN JB

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE: Former weathergirl Kaddy Lee-Preston, BBC South East's Ian Palmer, organiser Hilary Steel, celebrity chef Rosemary Shrager and Sue Smith of backer Kent Ideas at the awards ceremony

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Survey set up to chart poor mobile reception

BUSINESSES are being urged to take part in a major new survey charting poor mobile phone reception in the county.

The South East Local Enterprise Partnership has set up a survey into poor service levels, which impact on business, in order to take steps to improve it.

To take part, contact www.southeastlep.com/mobile-phone-coverage-survey/introduction.

Plans for regeneration of dockland finalised

PLANS for a £650 million project to regenerate 26 acres of land at Chatham Docks, creating 3,500 jobs, have been formally submitted to Medway Council.

Developer Peel Land and Property say an Asda supermarket, a fully automated petrol station, a pub and restaurant, a 27-bedroom hotel operated by Marstons and a coffee shop are all part of the scheme.

Facebook is top for business social media

FACEBOOK rates as number one when it comes to social media marketing for small businesses, but other social networking sites are making gains, new research has found.

Eighty-two per cent of small business owners say Facebook is the most effective social media platform for their business, up from 75 per cent in May 2012. However, LinkedIn and Twitter have recorded gains in effectiveness.

KRBS owners reverse losses with big gains

ONESAVINGS Bank – which owns Kent Reliance Building Society – has confirmed profits before tax of £8 million for last year, compared to a loss of £11.1m in the previous year.

The about-turn is credited to the group's acquisition of finance company Interbay Group and Prestige Finance Ltd – offsetting losses incurred by Kent Reliance in the previous year.

Charity effort puts law firm in line for award

WORK helping seriously ill children and their families has seen law firm Whitehead Monckton shortlisted in the Business Charity Awards.

It is in the running for its work with chYps Children's Hospice at Home – offering hospice care to babies, children and young adults.

Partner Daniel Bennett said: "We wanted to develop strong links with a local charity so they could benefit from our fundraising."

War and Peace signs security deal for show

RIGHT Guard Security has clinched a deal to provide security at this summer's War and Peace Revival Show.

The event moves from its traditional home at the Hop Farm in Paddock Wood to Folkestone Racecourse this summer.

Show owner Rex Cadman said: "We interviewed four firms and were impressed with their expertise and professional yet friendly approach."

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First GEAR MOTORING NEWS

- Jaguar wins World Car Design Of The Year
- Daniel Craig takes to the Range Rover Sport
- Volvo R-Design adds a few extra stylings



Envy, greed and lust are all inspired by the Mini Roadster

Driving

carsforkent.co.uk

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk



SEAT LEON

FIRST DRIVE

Price: £15,670
Driving appeal: ★★★★★
Image: ★★★★★
Space: ★★★★
Value: ★★★★★
Running costs: ★★★★
Reliability: ★★★★
How green?: ★★★★★
Best rival: VW Golf

Seat lays on the Spanish style

HAS the VW group shot itself in the foot with the third-generation Seat Leon – the Spanish interpretation of the latest VW Golf?

It's badge-engineering but not like the bad old days of BMC and the American giants, where shameless clones aimed to please loyal but naïve brand fans.

The VW way is to create a standard platform and then allow its various brands their own interpretations, with marked differences in style and handling.

Since the first Seat Leon in 2000, VW's Spanish arm has taken Golf underpinnings and crafted five-door coupé looks on to them, also creating superb hot-hatch spin-offs using the FR (Formula Racing) and Cupra (Cup Racing) sub-brands.

The previous car (2005-2012) looked terrific, only missing the bull's eye due to a lack-lustre interior but selling strongly until the end – 2012 was the Leon's second-best year for UK sales. The latest car (from £15,670) is bang on target, though.

It's rakish if more conservative than last time, but a sporty SC three-door arrives in the summer with a smart ST estate just after – both firsts for the Leon line-up.

The interior is also far superior this time. It's more VW corporate, admittedly, with a logical and well-made layout, including an excellent infotainment touchscreen.

But it's on-road that big gains are made; the old car's competition success gave it a big profile with sporting drivers and the new car, using VW's new lightweight MQB platform, delivers all the handling skills of before and more while adding greater ride comfort.

The spacious cabin can feel a little noisy, though, something VW engineered out to give the Golf its big-car feel, but the Leon range starts at £615 less and looks more dramatic – a deal keen drivers will find hard to resist.

Of models tested, the current performance flagship, the turbocharged 140PS (138bhp) 1.4 TSI FR (£19,385) is the star and we can expect a Cupra ultimate hot-hatch later on.

The nicest surprise was the 105PS (103bhp) 1.2 TSI entry model; it's light and nimble, achieving 62mph in 10 seconds, and costs just £30 a year in road tax after year one while returning an official combined 57.6mpg – a frugal, tax-free low-emission diesel Ecomotive model arrives late this year.

Least exciting was the 105PS 1.6TDI diesel (from £17,370). It will sell well to the company-car sector through its tax efficiencies; with 99g/km of CO_2 emissions, it is road-tax-exempt and has a combined mpg of 74.3. At almost two grand more than petrol equivalents, private buyers should avoid it, though, as they must cover many miles to make fuel savings against the higher purchase price. It's also the only Leon powertrain with a five-speed gearbox yet feels like it could use a sixth.





SPORTY: Seat's latest Leon has underpinnings of the VW Golf while remaining a superb car with some highly appealing hot hatch spin-offs to tempt you

DON'T LIKE

... the 1.6-litre diesel as much as the petrol models driven or, indeed, the 2.0-litre sporting diesel (from £19,840), which also has a six-speed box.

NOT SURE

... the brand yet has the cachet it deserves, while the Mii city and Exeo executive models have fudged Seat's traditionally sporty image lately.

REALLY LIKE

... how VW's Spanish 'poor relation' has hit back at its parent with a cheaper and more exciting interpretation of the slick yet pricier Golf.

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Sinful lust of the Mini wonder

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

MINI has spun seven different models from essentially the same car.

Whether these derivatives should be labelled sins or wonders is a matter of opinion, but it's impressive nevertheless and I've just driven one of the best, the Mini Roadster (from £18,050) – one to inspire envy, greed and lust.

It exhibits the very best of the basic Mini layout: punchy engines driving front wheels separated from the rear pair by a long wheelbase but with short overhangs and a well-balanced chassis set-up.

This wheel-at-each corner arrangement works superbly on every Mini, but the two-seat Roadster arguably delivers the best experience.

True, with folding fabric roof erected, it is not the most elegant convertible; the windscreen is steeply raked, but the roof then appears to balloon out behind it, aping the Mini Coupé – easily the ugliest car in the Mini line-up and the car from which the Roadster was derived.

But the Coupé was designed primarily to deliver the ultimate Mini drive and the Roadster offers pretty much the same deal and more by dropping its roof to convert an ugly duckling into a swan.

It's not a classic roadster like the wonderfully affordable Mazda MX-5 or rather less affordable Mercedes-Benz SLK and BMW Z4 – all traditionally proportioned and rear-wheel-drive.

The Mini belongs to the more recent vogue of lopped-off front-wheel-drive hatchbacks but is the out-and-out leader here; a real point-and-shoot machine, probably not seen since the legendary Peugeot 205 GTi Convertible.

All the clichés come to mind: corners on rails, go-kart handling, blah blah...

The key point, though, is that even on a cold winter's day you want to get that roof down to add to the sensory experience.

Electrically powered, it takes just a few seconds to retract and, with the heater full on and billowing up from the footwells, driving really does bring on a grin.

It's not perfect; exploiting the car's ability to change direction and corner with so little body-roll at speed reveals that the Roadster does not feel as taut as its Coupé sister – it's a familiar story when you chop the roof off a car that was designed to have one.

Presumably in the interests of keeping it compact when folded, the roof is also a fairly lightweight affair with little insulation from the elements – you hear driving rain as well as see it impact on the windscreen.

It also does little to insulate occupants from the noise of the engine, but you don't buy a convertible – certainly at this price – and expect to be as snug as you would in a hard-top.

And lowering the roof creates a further dimension that posers will love: the chance to show off the trademark retro-chic dashboard of the Mini line-up, clearly inspired by the simplicity of the 1960s original, with its single centre speedo and row of toggle switches below.

Of course, the new-era dashboard gives you far more, with a digital repeater for your speed dead ahead of the eye and all the infotainment and data expected in a modern car.

The retro design and finishing is also top-notch, as we've come to expect from the BMW-owned brand.

So, which engine?

The test car was the single diesel in the line-up, the Cooper SD (£21,660), which romps home in the economy stakes with an official combined mpg of 62.8 yet will also hit 62mph in 8.1 seconds thanks to 225bhp on tap.

But that makes it £3,610 more than the Cooper petrol entry model, which delivers all the fun elements anyway.

MINI ROADSTER COOPER SD: PRICE £21,660



WARMING UP: The Mini Roadster convertible is not the most elegant of soft-tops but delivers an exciting drive and brings a smile to the face with the roof down, even in the coldest of conditions

FACT FILE

Driving appeal:	★★★★★
Image:	★★★★★
Space:	★★
Value:	★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax:	£30/year (zero year one)
Best rival:	Mazda MX-5

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MOTORING NEWS



It's pre-launch F-type success

JAGUAR'S stunning F-Type roadster has been declared 2013 World Car Design Of The Year, defeating 42 rivals for the coveted title.

The British marque's design guru Ian Callum said: "No design project has given me greater pleasure than the creation of the F-Type."

Priced from £58,500, the Jaguar F-Type is available to order now and launched in the summer.



Bond approval for new Sport

LAND Rover has unveiled the new Range Rover Sport in style, with footage of James Bond star Daniel Craig driving it through New York.

The British brand says the new model, due in late 2013, is "the fastest, most agile, most responsive Land Rover ever."

It will have a five-two seating option and is 420 kg lighter – the equivalent of five adults.



Polestar adds to Volvo speed

VOLVO'S sporty and dramatic R-Design look is available on three further models now – the S60/V60 executive saloon and estate and rough, tough XC60 SUV.

Buyers of performance flagship versions with the potent 304bhp 3.0-litre, six-cylinder T6 petrol turbo can also opt for ultimate pace, with Polestar software adding 25bhp, delivering 0-62mph in 5.9 seconds (previously 6.1) in the S60's case.



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Vauxhall Ex Demonstrator Commercials — +VAT

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10	10	**CORSA ENERGY 1.2 3dr,** White	£6,995
11	61	**CORSA EXCITE 1.2 3dr,** Lime Green	£8,490
11	11	**CORSA ACTIVE 1.2 3dr,** Black Sapphire	£8,995
12	12	**CORSA ACTIVE A/C 1.2 5dr,** Waterworld Blue	£9,995
12	12	**CORSA VXR 1.6 3dr,** Arden Blue	£14,495
12	12	**CORSA EXCLUSIV CDTi 1.3 5dr,** Flame Red	£9,895
12	61	**CORSA S 1.0 3dr,** Flame Red	£7,495
12	62	**CORSA ACTIVE 1.2 5dr,** Silver Lake	£9,995

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12	62	**AGILA SE AUTO 1.2 5dr,** Steel Silver	£11,495
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08	08	**TOYOTA AVENSIS 1.8 4dr,** Grey	£4,770
10	10	**SEAT IBIZA 1.6 5dr,** Silver	£7,995
01	02	**CORSA COMFORT 1.2 5dr,** Metallic Blue	£2,500
05	05	**CORSA BREEZE 1.2 5dr,** Flame Red	£2,995
06	56	**ASTRA SXi SPORTS HATCH 1.4 3dr,** Peacock	£4,995
07	07	**ASTRA SPORT TWINTOP 1.8 2dr,** Panacotta	£4,495
05	55	**TIGRA SPORT 1.8 2dr,** Star Silver	£3,995
06	06	**TIGRA 1.4 EXCLUSIVE 1.4 2dr,** Antigua Blue	£4,495
02	52	**ZAFIRA ELEGANCE 1.8 5dr,** Red	£2,995
03	03	**VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 1.4 5dr,** Silver	£2,995

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06	06	**MEGANE DCi ESTATE 1.5 5dr,** Black	£4,280

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Public Sector

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Bradstow School

Bradstow School is a residential special school situated in Broadstairs, Kent and it is maintained by the London Borough of Wandsworth. Bradstow School recognises the importance of supporting, training and developing its staff to enable them to deliver an outstanding service for children and young people.

REGISTERED MANAGER

£38,284 - £41,228 per annum, 32 days annual leave plus statutory holidays
41 hours per week, early and late shifts (including weekends). All year round.

A manager is required for The Woodlands Children's Accommodation which will provide flexible and extended provision for the children and young people who currently attend Bradstow School. We are looking for a manager with proven managerial and leadership skills, and a knowledge of supporting children and young people with learning disabilities, autism and associated challenging behaviours.

The successful candidate will have managerial experience in a relevant residential care setting working within the Ofsted inspection framework, and an in-depth knowledge of the National Minimum Standards, the Children Acts and other relevant legislation and guidance. They should have, or be working towards the QCF Level 5 Diploma in Leadership for Health & Social Care and Children & Young People's Services, or Registered Managers Award/NVQ 4 in Health & Social Care & Management.

If you want to work within a creative and dynamic team who really make a difference to the lives of the children and young people at Bradstow School, and you want to lead this exciting extended provision, then this is the opportunity for you.

We are committed to sustainability and preserving the environment and therefore encourage applications by email. For an application form and information pack please email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk Or you may call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine).

Please note that CV's will not be considered.

The closing date for all applications is 5pm Thursday 11th April 2013.

www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

spencer private hospital

The Spencer Private Hospital is an independently owned and managed private hospital. We have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford and a 22 bed unit situated on the QEQM Hospital site.
The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Staff Nurse (Margate)
1 Year contract (to cover Maternity Leave) wef May 2013
Nights Only
30 hours per week

Staff Nurses (Margate)
Full and part-time positions available (days)

Qualifications
Registered Nurse 1st Level
Evidence of continual professional development
Closing date for applications Friday 5 April 2013

To discuss the roles or to arrange an informal visit please contact:
Mary Guarnieri, Matron - 01843 234252

For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards
East Kent Medical Services Ltd
Spencer Private Hospital
2nd Floor, 5 Bench Street,
Dover
Kent CT16 1JH
Telephone: 01304 245951
Fax: 01304 207320
E-mail: jo.edwards@spencerhospitals.com

The Spencer Private Hospital is an equal opportunity employer
These positions are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

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NORTHFLEET SCHOOL FOR GIRLS CO-OPERATIVE LEARNING TRUST

Learning Support Assistant (commencing May to September)
31.25 hours per week -Term Time only

Kent Scheme Grade 4/5 - £11,621 to £13,429 p.a. (£16,306 - £18,843 fte)

An opportunity for a Learning Support Assistant with a flexible and innovative approach to supporting pupils who have identified additional needs to work under the guidance of our Inclusion Manager. The role involves working with both class teachers and some one-to-one working directly with students.

Academic Coach for English
37 hours per week – Term Time Only

Kent Scheme Grade 5 - £14,451 to £15,900 p.a. (£17,1732 to £18,843 fte)

As an Academic Coach you will work with the more able individuals and groups of students to motivate and ensure adequate challenge, in order that students meet their targets and that any barriers to learning are overcome. You will work as part of a domain focused curriculum team, and be educated to at least A Level standard.

A sense of humour and strong interpersonal skills are imperative to both positions.

Full job descriptions and application forms available on our website at www.northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk. Application by fully completed application form with supporting letter to Personnel at Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ - email: personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk. Tel: 01474 831020

The successful applicant will be subject to a full DBS check.

Closing date for applications: 30 April 2013

Swale Academies Trust

Regis Manor Primary School
Middletune Avenue, Milton Regis, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 2HT

Site Maintenance Technician/Caretaker

£14,240 - £16,144 for 37 hours a week - whilst open to negotiation it is likely to be a 6:30am start.

The successful applicant will work as a member of the Site Maintenance team. As well as general caretaking duties they will be expected to undertake site maintenance, and so a good working knowledge and experience with carpentry, electrics, plumbing and decorating is essential. A clean Driving Licence would be beneficial.

Extra payments will be made to cover any out-of-hours lettings during evenings and weekends should the need arise.

You are welcome to contact the school for a preliminary discussion if desired.

Recruitment packs are available online (http://www.regis-manor.kent.sch.uk).

Please note, we cannot accept CVs without an application form.

Closing date: 19th April 2013

Swale Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Contact Details
Regis Manor Primary School
Tel: 01795 472971 Fax: 01795 472916
Email: C.Wood@regis-manor.kent.sch.uk
Head of School: Mrs C Wood.

Swale Academies Trust Company No 7344732
Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1JS

Swale Academies Trust

Regis Manor Primary School
Middletune Avenue, Milton Regis, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 2HT

Site Maintenance Technician/Caretaker

£14,240 - £16,144 for 37 hours a week - whilst open to negotiation it is likely to be a 6:30am start.

The successful applicant will work as a member of the Site Maintenance team. As well as general caretaking duties they will be expected to undertake site maintenance, and so a good working knowledge and experience with carpentry, electrics, plumbing and decorating is essential. A clean Driving Licence would be beneficial.

Extra payments will be made to cover any out-of-hours lettings during evenings and weekends should the need arise.

You are welcome to contact the school for a preliminary discussion if desired.

Recruitment packs are available online (http://www.regis-manor.kent.sch.uk).

Please note, we cannot accept CVs without an application form.

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Tel: 01795 472971 Fax: 01795 472916
Email: C.Wood@regis-manor.kent.sch.uk
Head of School: Mrs C Wood.

Swale Academies Trust Company No 7344732
Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1JS

Folkestone

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y12/1038/SH - The Dukes Head 9 Dymchurch Road Hythe Kent CT21 6JB - Listed building consent for alterations to a public house associated with conversion into 3 dwellings.

Y13/0248/SH - 30 Sandgate Esplanade Sandgate Folkestone Kent CT20 3EA - Retrospective application for a new retaining front wall with central access stairs and landscaping of front gardens, together with proposed new boundary treatment to rear elevation.

Y13/0213/SH - The Long Hall Barn Little Densole Farm Canterbury Road Densole Folkestone - Proposed change of use of land for the grazing of horses & replacement stable block

Y13/0238/SH+ - 62 High Street Hythe Kent CT21 5AJ - Advertisement consent for the display of 3 internally illuminated fascia signs, 1 internally illuminated hanging sign and other ancillary signage.

Y13/0230/SH - 30 Sandgate Hill Sandgate Folkestone Kent CT20 3AX - Formation of vehicular access and parking space to frontage, including alterations to existing ground levels and new retaining wall.

Y12/0862/SH# - Russell House Rhee Wall Road Brenzett Romney Marsh Kent - Display of freestanding post mounted hanging sign to Rhee Wall Road frontage.

Y13/0172/SH+ - Seapoint Centre Seabrook Road Hythe Kent CT21 5RL - Erection of two three storey blocks of 22 flats with semi basement parking, comprising development affecting a public right of way.

Y13/0259/SH+ - 8 Hillside Street Hythe Kent CT21 5EJ - Various pruning works to two trees situated within a conservation area comprising the re-pollarding of a Willow and the crown reduction and removal of fourth leader limb of a Ginkgo Biloba.

Y13/0260/SH+ - Slaybrook Hall Sandling Road Sandling Hythe Kent - Listed buildings consent for replacement of render to infill panels to timber frame to front (north-east) elevation and approximately 5 square metres to side (south) elevation.

Y13/0275/SH+ - Broad View Hillside Street Hythe Kent CT21 5EJ - Felling of an Ash Tree situated within a conservation area.

Y13/0154/SH+ - Royal Oak Motel Ashford Road Newingreen Kent CT21 4JB - Listed Building Consent for replacement of one window with door and block existing door entrance with one new window to north elevation.

Y13/0286/SH - Montacue Court 11 - 15 Westbourne Gardens Folkestone Kent CT20 2TJ - Crown reduction back to previous points of a Prunus tree (T1) and the pruning back to boundary of encroaching branches of an Ilex tree (T4) both situated within a conservation area.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

\# - The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

\+ - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council



Swale BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
4. The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.
6. This application may be of wider public interest.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 22 APRIL 2013

TN/13/0031:
Siting of 15 m high replacement telecommunications mast - Bell Road 5F, Junction of Bell Road and Northwood Drive, SITTINGBOURNE; **REASON 2**

SW/13/0030:
Change of use of land to gypsy site for two gypsy families (related) and for the siting of one static caravan and extension and erection of dwelling (stable building) and stationing of one touring caravan and use of existing barn as general amenity (retrospective) - Hursell Farm, Chaffes Lane, UPCHURCH; **REASON 4**

SW/13/0266 &
SW/13/0267:
Demolition of existing village hall, erection of new village hall with improved pedestrian and vehicle access - Village Hall, The Green, Stalisfield Road, STALISFIELD; **REASONS 1 & 6**

SW/13/0271:
Proposed external decking area above existing garage for private residential use - Brian's Warehouse, Beach Street, SHEERNESS; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0311 &
SW/13/0312:
Creation of 1 x 3 bed self-contained flat with new access at the front - 4 Broadway, SHEERNESS; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0314:
Advertisement consent for Display of two non-illuminated fascia signs and one non-illuminated hanging sign - Barclays Bank, 79-81 High Street, SITTINGBOURNE; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0341:
Two storey rear extension - 94 London Road, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

Planning applications

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Notice under Article 13 of the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010
Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA/13/00519/FUL: 81 Harbour Street, Whitstable, CT5 1AE Replacement windows and doors, replacement of existing dormer window, insertion of rooflight to rear, and re-roofing. **Applicant: White Table** Reason: Conservation area.
CA/13/00528/ADV: 80 High Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5LE Change of use from bakery/sandwich shop into hot food take-away (A5) and restaurant (A3). Replacement shopfront, illuminated signage and extractor duct to the rear of the property. Internally illuminated sign and projecting sign. **Applicant: Favorite Fried Chicken Ltd** Reason: Conservation area.
CA/13/00530/FUL: Hode Farm, Hode Lane, Bekesbourne CT4 5DH Proposed three bay oak framed garage. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Stacey** Reason: Affects the setting of a listed building.
CA/13/00535/FUL: 9 and 9A St Lawrence Road, Canterbury, CT1 3EY Proposed car port and gym. **Applicant: Mr D Luckhurst** Reason: Conservation area.
CA/13/00537/FUL: 58B Chestfield Road, Chestfield, CT5 3JH Single-storey side extension to create annexed accommodation. **Applicant: Mr Watson** Reason: Conservation area.
CA/13/00543/FUL: 68 Stour Street, Canterbury, CT1 2NZ Change of use of shop to domestic garage to include: alterations to and raising of boundary walls; reducing of ground levels; alterations to roofs and valley gutters; alterations to existing windows and doors. Insertion of new doors and windows; application of tile hanging/weatherboarding to external panels. **Applicant: Mr Richard Cochrane** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA/13/00562/FUL: Chantry Hall, 8-10 Dane John, Canterbury, CT1 2QS Provide and fit new metal railings to existing boundary wall. **Applicant: Chantry Hall Residents Ltd** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA/13/00564/FUL: 10 St George's Street, Canterbury, CT1 2SR Removal of the existing shop front and signage. Provision of new shop front and signage. **Applicant: Everything Everywhere** Reason: Conservation area.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to **development.management@canterbury.gov.uk** to arrive on or before **Monday 29 April 2013.**

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: **www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc**

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 5 April 2013

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Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

13/00554/HOUSE 30 Boyne Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden

- Construction of single-storey side and rear extensions (demolition of existing side extension and conservatory to rear) (CA)

13/00678/FULMJ Orchard Place Farm Pearsons Green Road, Paddock Wood

- Minor Material Amendment to Condition 3 of TW/11/01175/FULMJ - Change of use from agriculture and formation of one additional lake with associated access and car parking area to extend the fishing enterprise - Provisions for a change in car park layout and planting plan (PROW) (MAJOR)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

James Freeman
Head of Planning Services
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 06 April 2013

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/13/0116/S - 62, BOWER LANE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME16 8ED - Erection of three dwellings as shown on drawing numbers AM.358.05, AM.358.06 and AM.358.11, supported by a design and access statement, Arboricultural Method Statement, BREEAM Report and Code for Sustainable Homes Pre-Assessment Report, all received 22nd January 2013. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/0176/S - ECCLESTON HOUSE, OLD RECTORY LANE, STAPLEHURST, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 0AF - Erection of a single storey rear extension and two storey rear extension. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/0416/S - CLOCK HOUSE, HEATH ROAD, COXHEATH, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4PB - An application for listed building consent for conversion of existing outhouse to ancillary residential accommodation and erection of single storey link to house and new window. **Reason: 3**

Reasons for advertisement key:
1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.

MAIDSTONE Borough Council

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm, and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **21st April 2013**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 7th April 2013

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND BUILDINGS IN CONSERVATION AREAS) REGULATIONS 1990

DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that application(s) have been made to the Dover District Council for consent to carry out the following proposal(s).

DOV/12/01027 Insertion of French doors (existing window to be removed)
21 Cavalry Court, Walmer, Deal, CT14 7GF

DOV/13/00169 Erection of a rear extension with balustrades and associated alterations (existing sun room to be demolished)
Seven Seas,5 St Margarets Bay, CT15 6EQ

DOV/13/00207 Change of use and conversion of first floor to a self-contained flat
3 Cannon Street, Dover, CT16 1BY

DOV/13/00210 Erection of a detached garage
Christmas Cottage,School Road, Tilmanstone,CT14 0JL

DOV/13/00221 Installation of four replacement windows
1 Brewer Street, Deal, CT14 6JH

DOV/13/00222 Installation of four replacement windows
1 Brewer Street, Deal, CT14 6JH

DOV/13/00226 Erection of single storey rear extension and conversion of garage to habitable room
8 Grams Road, Walmer, CT14 7NT

DOV/13/00228 Remove one Sycamore tree; remove one stem from one Ash tree; remove a small limb from one sycamore to balance crown; 35-40% crown reduction to seven Ash trees
Walmer Court Ruins, Church Street, Walmer, Deal, CT14 7RP

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

ASH

DOV/13/00227 Variation of condition 2 of planning permission DOV/11/00989 to substitute design drawing for alterations to Glasshouse 2 (lower site)
Europa Nursery (2), Weddington Lane, Ash, CT3 2AP

Reason for Advert

MAJ

SOME APPLICATIONS ARE NOT PUBLICISED IN THIS LIST. All applications may be inspected at the Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, to which address any representations (to include a postal address) should be sent within 21 days marked "for the attention of Planning". Applications may also be viewed on our website www.dover.gov.uk/planning or at Dover Gateway, 71 Castle Street, Dover, Deal Library or the Area Office, The Guildhall, Sandwich

FAILURE TO MEET THE ABOVE DEADLINE MAY JEOPARDISE THE CHANCES OF REPRESENATIONS BEING CONSIDERED. ANY REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED MAY BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION BY THE PUBLIC, AND MAY BE COPIED TO OTHERS, INCLUDING THE SECREATARY OF STATE AND THE APPLICANT IF THERE IS AN APPEAL AGAINST THE COUNCIL'S DECISION. REPRESEANTIONS WILL NOT BE ACKNOWLEDGED UNTIL AN APPLICATION HAS BEEN DETERMINED.

Please note that the Council does not accept any responsibility for any incomplete or inaccurate description of any application.

Reason for Advert Codes:-

ARW - Affect a Public Right of Way
BRD - Affects a Public Right of Way and is a Departure
CDP - Departure from the Development Plan
SEA - Accompanied by an Environmental Statement
MAJ - Major Development
MAR - Major Development & Affects a Public Rights of Way
CMRW - The proposal is a departure from the development plan, affects a Right of Way and is a Major

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS AE270, AE272, AE302, AE305 AND AE310

IN THE PARISH OF BRABOURNE

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS AE270, AE272, AE302, AE305 AND AE310 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Footpaths AE270, AE272, AE302, AE305 and AE310 from the 31st March 2013.

Public Right of Way AE270 will be closed from its junction with Public Footpath AE272 at NGR TR101, 404 and its junction with Public Footpath AE273 at NGR TR096, 404.

Public Right of Way AE272 will be closed from its junction with Public Footpath AE270 at NGR TR101, 404 and its junction with Public Footpath AE268 at NGR TR096, 408.

Public Right of Way AE302 will be closed from its junction with Public Footpath AE301 at NGR TR106, 409 and its junction with Public Footpath AE305 at NGR TR105, 414.

Public Right of Way AE305 will be closed from its junction with AE310 at NGR TR103, 415 and its junction with Public Footpath AE301 at NGR TR109, 412.

Public Right of Way AE310 will be closed from its junction with Public Footpath AE270 at NGR TR102, 404 and its junction with Public Footpath AE302 at NGR TR103, 415.

The paths will be closed for a maximum of six months. However it is expected that the path will be available when work schedules permit access.

The paths will be closed because overhead power line refurbishment works are planned near them and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact Edward Denne on 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning

PROW - IN THE CITY OF CANTERBURY

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY CB279A

IN THE PARISH OF BISHOPSBOURNE

PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY CB279A (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Bridleway CB279A, at its junction with Public Footpath CB293 at NGR TR168 500 and its junction with Public Footpath CB294 at NGR TR167 500 from the 31st March 2013.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months. However it is expected that the path will be available when work schedules permit access.

The path will be closed because overhead power line refurbishment works are planned near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact Louise Adams

On 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC BRIDLEWAYS CB351, CB352, CB353, CB309 AND PUBLIC FOOTPATH CB308

IN THE PARISHES OF LOWER HARDRES AND BRIDGE

PUBLIC BRIDLEWAYS CB351, CB352, CB353, CB309 AND PUBLIC FOOTPATH CB308 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Bridleways CB351, CB352, CB353 and CB309 and Public Footpath CB308 from the 31st March 2013.

Public Right of Way CB351 will be closed between its junction with Public Footpath CB307 at NGR TR162, 537, and its junction with Public Bridleway CB309 at NGR TR162, 533.

Public Right of Way CB352 will be closed at its junction with Public Footpath CB307 at NGR TR162, 537, in a Westerly direction for approximately 370 meters to point NGR TR159, 535.

Public Right of Way CB353 will be closed between its junction with Public Bridleway CB351 at NGR TR162, 533 and its junction with Public Footpath CB288A at NGR TR158, 530.

Public Right of Way CB309 will be closed between its junction with Public Bridleway CB351 at NGR TR162, 533 and its junction with Public Footpath CB288A at NGR TR160, 529.

Public Right of Way CB308 will be closed between its junction with Bridge Road and its junction with Public Bridleway CB351 at NGR TR161, 542.

The paths will be closed for a maximum of six months. However it is expected that the paths will be available when work schedules permit access.

The paths will be closed because overhead power line refurbishment works are planned near them and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There are no alternative routes.

For detailed enquiries please contact Louise Adams on 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY CB381

IN THE PARISH OF UPPER HARDRES

PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY CB381 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Bridleway CB381, between Pett Bottom Road and Kingswood Street from the 31st March 2013.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months. However it is expected that the path will be available when work schedules permit access.

The path will be closed because overhead power line refurbishment works are planned near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact Louise Adams

On 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS CC36, CC42, CC35, CC34 AND CB330

IN THE CITY OF CANTERBURY AND PARISH OF BEKESBOURNE-WITH-PATRIXBOURNE

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS CC36, CC42, CC35, CC34 AND CB330 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Footpaths CC36, CC42, CC35, CC34 and CB330 from the 31st March 2013.

Public Right of Way CC36 will be closed from its junction with CC37, approximately 45 metres south east of Stodmarsh Rd to its junction with CB149 approximately 90 metres north of Littlebourne Rd.

Public Right of Way CC35 will be closed from its junction with Littlebourne Rd to its junction with CC32 at NGR TR178, 574.

Public Right of Way CC42 will be closed from its junction with CC43 at NGR TR178 567 to Dorset Rd.

Public Right of Way CC34 will be closed from its junction with Public Footpath CC33 at NGR TR177 571 to its junction with CB330 at NGR TR181 571.

Public Right of Way CB330 will be closed from its junction with Public Footpath CC34 at NGR TR181 571 to its junction with CB150A at NGR TR184, 569.

The paths will be closed for a maximum of six months. However it is expected that the paths will be available when work schedules permit access.

The paths will be closed because overhead power line refurbishment works are planned near them and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There are no alternative routes.

For detailed enquiries please contact Louise Adams

On 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS CC23/CB163, CB165 AND CB166

IN THE CITY OF CANTERBURY AND THE PARISH OF FORDWICH

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS CC23/CB163, CB165 AND CB166 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Footpaths CC23/CB163, CB165 and CB166, from 31st March 2013.

Public Right of Way CC23 will be closed between its junction with Public Right of Way CB163 at NGR TR173 592 and point NGR TR170 590.

Public Right of Way CB163 will be closed between its junction with Public Right of Way CC23 at NGR TR173 592 and point NGR TR175 593.

Public Right of Way CB165 will be closed between its junction with Moat Lane and its junction with Public Footpath CB166 at NGR TR178 587.

Public right of Way CB166 will be closed between its junction with CB165 at NGR TR178 587 and its junction with Moat Lane.

The paths will be closed for a maximum of six months. However it is expected that the paths will be available when work schedules permit access.

The paths will be closed because overhead power line refurbishment works are planned near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact Louise Adams on 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW - IN THE DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS HE27 AND HE45

IN THE PARISHES OF STELLING MINNIS AND LYMINGE

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS HE27 AND HE45 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Footpaths HE27 and HE45, from the 31st March 2013.

Public Right of Way HE27 will be closed between South Lodge Road and Fryarne Park Road.

Public Right of Way HE45 will be closed between High Minnis Road and point NGR TR150 451, approximately 270 metres into Park Wood.

The paths will be closed for a maximum of six months. However it is expected that the paths will be available when work schedules permit access.

The paths are to be closed because overhead power line refurbishment works are planned near them and there is a likelihood of danger to users

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact Edward Denne on 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS HE28, HE29 AND HE114

IN THE PARISHES OF ELHAM AND STELLING MINNIS

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS HE28, HE29 AND HE114 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Footpaths HE28, HE29 and HE114 from the 31st March 2013.

Public Right of Way HE28 will be closed between Fryarne Park Road and Elham Park Road.

Public Right of Way HE29 will be closed between its junction with Wheelbarrow Town and its junction with Elhampark Wood at NGR TR157 459.

Public Right of Way HE114 will be closed between Wheelbarrow Town and Droveway.

The paths will be closed for a maximum of six months. However it is expected that the paths will be available when work schedules permit access.

The paths are to be closed because overhead power line refurbishment works are planned near them and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact Edward Denne on 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS HE151, HE152 AND PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY HE36

IN THE PARISH OF STOWTING

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS HE151, HE152 AND PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY HE36 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Footpaths HE151 and HE152 and Public Bridleway HE36, from 31st March 2013.

Public Right of Way HE151 will be closed between its junction with Stone Street and its junction with Public Footpath HE150 at NGR TR127, 436.

Public Right of Way HE152 will be closed between Stowting Hill and Brabourne Lane.

Public Right of Way HE36 will be closed between its junction with Stone Street and its junction with Public Footpath HE150 at NGR TR126, 433.

The paths will be closed for a maximum of six months. However it is expected that the paths will be available when work schedules permit access.

The path will be closed because overhead power line refurbishment works are planned near them and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There are no alternative routes.

For detailed enquiries please contact Louise Adams on 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH HL5, HL2/HR4

IN THE PARISHES OF LYDD AND NEW ROMNEY

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS HL5, HL2/HR4 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath HL5, between its junction with Harden Road and its junction with footpath HL7 at NGR TR072, 206 and Public Footpaths HL2/HR4 between Romney Road and Church Road from the 15th April 2013.

The paths will be closed for six months, although it is expected that the planned works will take nine months and an extension to this closure will be required.

The paths are to be closed to facilitate the installation of a replacement water supply pipeline between Denge Water Treatment Works and New Romney and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route available.

For detailed enquiries please contact Edward Denne on 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact Kent Public Rights of Way and Access Service, on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess

Kent County Council
kent.gov.uk

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH HE34

IN THE PARISHES OF ELMSTED & STELLING MINNIS

PUBLIC FOOTPATH HE34 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Footpath HE34, between Stone Street and Sandy Lane from the 31st March 2013.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months. However it is expected that the path will be available when work schedules permit access.

The path is to be closed because overhead power line refurbishment works are planned near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Edward Denne

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW - IN THE DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY AND BOROUGH OF ASHFORD

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS AE427/HE304, AE441/HE307, HE307/AE440

IN THE PARISHES OF SMEETH AND SELLINDGE

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS AE427/HE304, AE441/HE307, HE307/AE440 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Footpaths AE427/HE304, AE441/HE307, HE307/AE440 from the 31st March 2013.

Public Right of Way AE427 will be closed from its junction with HE304 at NGR TR097 397 to its junction with Public Footpath AE273 at NGR TR093 400.

Public Right of Way HE304 will be closed from its junction with Southenay Lane to its junction with Public Footpath AE427 at NGR TR097 397.

Public Right of Way HE307 will be closed from its junction with Stone Hill to its junction with Public Footpath AE441 at NGR TR089 391.

Public Right of Way AE441 will be closed from its junction with Public Footpath HE307 at NGR TR089 391, to its junction with Lilyvale.

Public Right of Way HE307 will be closed from its junction with Stone Hill to its junction with Public Footpath AE440 at NGR TR087 389.

Public Right of Way AE440 will be closed from its junction with Public Footpath HE307 at NGR TR087 389 and its junction with Hythe Road.

The paths will be closed for a maximum of six months. However it is expected that the paths will be available when work schedules permit access.

The paths are to be closed because overhead power line refurbishment works are planned near them and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact Edward Denne on 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE AND MALLING

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE BYWAY MR21
IN THE PARISH OF BURHAM

BYWAY MR21 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Byway MR21 between Rochester Road and Common Road from the 2nd April 2013.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before June 2013.

The path is to be closed because works are planned on it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact Michele Snoding on 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

Public Rights of Way and Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX

Dated: 7th April 2013

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HIGHWAYS - ASHFORD AREA

VARIOUS ROADS, RURAL ASHFORD (PATCHING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY APRIL ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on various roads in the rural part of the Ashford area, on or after 8 April 2013 as shown below.

The roads affected, dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below.

MALMAINS ROAD, PLUCKLEY - closed between Station Road and Surrenden Road

8 - 16 April2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Station Road, Dowle Street Road and Surrenden Road

ETCHDEN ROAD, BETHERSDEN - closed between Park Lane and Bears Lane

13 - 15 April 2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Park Lane, Vitters Oak Lane and Goldwell Lane

WOOTTON LANE, CHARING - closed between Westwell Lane and Maidstone Road

15 - 18 April 2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Westwell Lane, Wicken Lane and A20 Ashford Road

SLY CORNER, KENNARDINGTON - closed between Bench Hill and Appledore Road

16 - April2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Woodchurch Road, Kenardington Road and Appledore Road.

LEWD LANE, SMARDEN - closed between Bell Lane and Mount Pleasant Farm

18 - 25 April 2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Bell Lane, Water Lane, Mill Lane and Pluckley Road

MOCKBEGGAR LANE, BENENDEN - closed between Goddards Green Road and Cranbrook Road

19 - 21 April 2013.

Alternative route via Goddards Green Road, Benenden Road and Cranbrook Road

MOOR LANE, APPLEDORE - closed between Woodchurch Road and New Bridge

21 - 25 April2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Moor Lane, Brook Street, Appledore Road, Bench Hill and Woodchurch Road

PARK LANE, CHARING - closed between Hunger Hatch Lane and Pivington Lane

24 - 26 April 2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Bell Lane, Water Lane, Mill Lane, Pluckley Road and Hunger Hatch Lane

PRIORY ROAD, BILSINGTON - closed between Frith Road and Bonnington Road

24 - 30 April 2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Frith Road, Ashford Road and Bonnington Road

RUSHBROOK & DOWLE STREET ROAD , PLUCKLEY - closed between Station Road and Malmains Road

26 April - 4 May 2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Station Road and Malmains Road

BOND LANE, KINGSNORTH - closed between Steeds Lane and Church Hill

29 April - 3 May 2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Steeds Lane, Ashford Road and Church Hill

MALTHOUSE LANE, WAREHORNE - closed between Woodchurch Road and Warehorne Road

9 - 11 May 2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Warehorne Road, Ashford Road Ham Street Road and Birchett Lane

LOWER ENSDEN ROAD, CHILHAM - closed between Selling Road to Lower Lees Road

11 - 13 May 2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Selling Road and Lower Lees Road

BONNINGTON ROAD, BILSINGTON - closed between Priory Road and Bonnington Cross

13 - 15 May 2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Newchurch Road, Honey Wood Lane and Frogmore Lane

COOPERS LANE, MERSHAM - closed between Roman Road and Chequer Tree Farm Road

14 - 17 May 2013 inclusive

Alternative route via Bank Road, Laws Lane, Frith Road and Coopers Lane

(VARIOUS ROADS, BOROUGH OF ASHFORD) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (AMENDMENT NO.29) ORDER 2013

The Council of the County of Kent in exercise of their powers under section 1, 2, 4, 32, 35, 45, 46, 47 and 124 and of Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended, the Traffic Management Act 2004, the Civil Enforcement of Parking Contraventions (England) General Regulations 2007 and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act, hereby makes the following Order:

Streets or lengths of Street where waiting is to be prohibited at any time at Charing in the Borough of Ashford

ASHFORD ROAD (A20) (LAYBY AT JUNCTION WITH LEACON LANE)

(1) On the south-western side;

(a) From a point 9.1 metres north-west of a point in line with the south-eastern building line of Rainbow Chinese Restaurant & Takeaway, Ashford Road extending in a south- easterly direction to its junction with Leacon Lane

(b) From a point 7.8 metres south-east of a point in line with the north-western building line of Corner House, Leacon Lane extending in a north-westerly direction to its junction with Leacon Lane

(2) On the north-eastern side from a point 9.1 metres north-west and opposite of a point in line with the south-eastern building line of Rainbow Chinese Restaurant & Takeaway, Ashford Road extending in a south-easterly direction to a point 7.8 metres south-east and opposite of a point in line with the north-western building line of Corner House, Leacon Lane.

LEACON LANE

(1) On the north-western side from a point 6.8 metres south-west of a point in line with the north-eastern building line of Rainbow Chinese Restaurant & Takeaway, Ashford Road extending in a north-easterly direction to its junction with Ashford Road (A20) (Layby at junction with Leacon Lane)

(2) On the south-eastern side from a point 4.9 metres south-west of a point in line with the north-eastern building line of Corner House, Ashford Road extending in a north-easterly direction to its junction with Ashford Road (A20) (Layby at junction with Leacon Lane)

Full details are contained in the Order, any Orders which will be amended by the Order, a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order and maps indicating the location and effect may be examined at the Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX and Ashford Borough Council Offices, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL and at Kent Highway offices, Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford TN24 8AD during normal office hours.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

HIGHWAYS - CANTERBURY AREA

BUTCHERY LANE, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow the safe placement of scaffolding for maintenance works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Butchery Lane, Canterbury, on or after 22 April 2013 for up to 10 weeks or until the works have been completed.

There is no suitable alternative route.

HIGH STREET & MOAT LANE, FORDWICH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on High Street and Moat Lane, Fordwich, on or after 22 April 2013 for up to 2 days, between 09:00 hours until 16:00 hours each day.

HIGH STREET and MOAT LANE will be closed between 'Byway House' and 'Timbers'.

There will be no through access from the A28 to Stodmarsh Road via Fordwich.

The alternative route is via Fordwich Road, Water Lane, A28 Mill Road, Sturry Road, Tourtel Road, Military Road, Broad Street, Lower Bridge Street, A257 St George's Place, Lower Chantry Lane, Longport, St Martin's Hill, Littlebourne Road and Stodmarsh Road.

PIER AVENUE, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pier Avenue, Whitstable, on or after 22 April 2013 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the north junction with Tankerton Road.

The alternative route is via Tankerton Road, Graystone Road and Marine Parade.

ROUGH COMMON ROAD, ROUGH COMMON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to complete the installation of a new Zebra Crossing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Rough Common Road, Rough Common, Canterbury, on or after 27 April 2013 for up to 2 days, between 07:00 hours and 19:00 hours each day.

The road will be closed between the junctions with A290 Whitstable Road and Oaks Park.

There will be no access for through traffic between the A2 and Whitstable Road using this route.

The alternative route is via Rough Common Road, Palmers Cross Hill, A2050 Harbledown Bypass, London Road, A290 Whitstable Road, St Thomas' Hill and Whitstable Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, CANTERBURY (RESURFACING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER APRIL 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on various roads in the Canterbury area, on or after 9 April 2013 as shown below.

TYLER HILL ROAD, BLEAN will be closed between A290 Blean Common and School Lane, on 9 April 2013, between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours

The alternative route is via Tyler Hill Road, Calais Hill, Canterbury Hill, Giles Lane, A290 Whitstable Road, A290 Tile Kiln Hill, A290 Blean Hill and A290 Blean Common

BLACK GRIFFIN LANE, CANTERBURY will be closed between Tower Way and St Peter's Grove, on 10 & 11 April 2013, between 08:00 hours and 17:00 hours

The alternative route is via Tower Way and St Peter's Grove

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of St Peter's Grove will be suspended for its entire length for the duration of these works, to allow its use for the diversion route

ST PETER'S GROVE, CANTERBURY will be closed between Tower Way and Black Griffin Lane, on 12 & 13 April 2013, between 08:00 hours and 17:00 hours

The alternative route is via Tower Way and Black Griffin Lane

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Black Griffin Lane will be suspended for its entire length for the duration of these works, to allow its use for the diversion route

LANSDOWN ROAD, CANTERBURY will be closed for its entire length, from the junction with Nunnery Fields, on 17 & 18 April 2013, between 09:00 hours and 16:00 hours

There is no alternative route as the road is a cul-de-sac.

WESTGATE TOWERS, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to modify the road network following the end of the experimental traffic scheme, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic in the Westgate Towers area of Canterbury, on or after 12 April 2013, as shown below.

A290 ST DUNSTAN'S STREET, ST PETER'S PLACE & NORTH LANE

A290 St Dunstan's Street and St Peter's Place will be closed between the junctions with Linden Grove and Tower Way.

North Lane will be closed between the junction with A290 St Dunstan's Street and the entrance to the public car park.

This closure is from Friday 12 April at 19:00 hours until Monday 15 April at 06:00 hours (re-opened sooner, if works completed)

There will be no through access between St Peter's Place and North Lane / St Dunstan's Street.

Access to Tower Way will be maintained from St Peter's Place.

There will be managed access from St Peter's Street into St Peter's Place / St Dunstan's Street

The alternative route is via North Lane, B2248 Station Road West, A290 St Dunstan's Street, London Road, Rheims Way and St Peter's Place.

A290 ST DUNSTAN'S STREET & STATION ROAD WEST

A290 St Dunstan's Street will be closed between the junctions with Roper Road and Kirby's Lane.

Station Road West will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with St Dunstan's Street.

This closure is planned for Sunday 21 April between 07:00 hours and 23:00 hours, with the road re-opened once the works have been completed.

The alternative route is the same as for the above closure, or via B2248 Station Road West, North Lane and A290 St Dunstan's Street.

These works are weather dependent, and adverse conditions may delay their progress or prevent them going ahead on the planned dates.

If there is a need for a postponement, revised dates will be notified and signposted on site.

HIGHWAYS - DARTFORD AREA

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL PRINCES ROAD A296, DARTFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

Because of pavement renewal work on A282 roundabout (Princes Road), Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Princess Road A296, on or after 10th April 2013 for up to 2 nights between the hours of 23.00 and 06.00 or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via A225/A296 Princes Road Eastbound to gain access to the M25/A282 clockwise or anti clockwise at M25 junction 1B or A296 Princes Road will be diverted Via A225 and B2174 Princes Road, westbound A2 18 Sheppard's Lane and Old Baily Lane to Dartford Heath interchange, A2 Dartford by-pass and Eastbound to M25 junction junction2

Traffic from A296 Princes Road westbound to gain access to M25/A282 anticlockwise or A225 Princes Road at M25 junction 1B shall be diverted from the A296/B2500 Watling Street junction of the A296 Watling Street to Bean interchange and A2 Dartford by pass westbound to M25 junction (Darenth interchange) M25/A282 anticlockwise or continue via Link road to M25 junction1B where diversion ends.

HIGHWAYS - DOVER AREA

COLDRED HILL, SHEPHERDSWELL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Coldred Hill, Shepherdswell, on or after 8 April 2013 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the A2 Trunk Road and Church Road, with no access to Coldred and Shepherdswell from the A2 using this route.

The alternative route is via A2 Dover Road, Sandwich Road, Whitfield, Sandwich Road, Tilmanstone, Kennel Hill, The Street, Coldred Road, Eythorne and Church Road, Coldred.

GRAMS ROAD, WALMER, DEAL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Grams Road, Walmer, Deal, on or after 23 April 2013 for up to 2 days, between 09:00 and 17:00 hours each day.

The road will be closed between A258 Dover Rd and St Clare Road.

The alternative route is via A258 Dover Road, Granville Road, Liverpool Road and St Clare Road.

(HOLLOW WOOD ROAD, DISTRICT OF DOVER) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL hereby makes the above named Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984:

The effect of the named Order (Prohibition of Waiting) will introduce new or to amend existing waiting restrictions in the following lengths of road (in this part of the notice DYL means waiting to be prohibited at all

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times by Double Yellow Road Markings);

Hollow Wood Road, Dover	Both sides	From its junction with Poulton Close for its entire length INCLUDING IT'S SPUR

Full details are contained in the Order, any Orders which will be amended by the Order, a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order and maps indicating the location and effect may be examined at the Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX and at the Dover District Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, CT16 3PJ during normal office hours.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

LOWER ROAD, RIVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Lower Road, River, on or after 27 April 2013 for up to 2 days, between 08:30 hours and 17:00 hours each day.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Alkham Road and Minnis Lane.

The alternative route is via Crabble Hill, Crabble Road, Lewisham Road, Minnis Lane and Lower Road.

TOWER HAMLETS ROAD, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Tower Hamlets Road, Dover, on or after 14 April 2013 as shown below.

Closures are planned for the Sundays of 14 April, 21 April and 28 April 2013, between 08:00 and 18:00 hours each day.

The road will be closed between the junctions with London Road and East Street, with no through access between Elms Vale Road and London Road.

The alternative routes are

Northbound (towards London Road) via Tower Street, Astor Avenue, Eaton Road, Elms Vale Road, B2011 Folkestone Road, A256 Priory Road and High Street

Southbound (towards Elms Vale Road) via Bridge Street, A256 Charlton Green, Maison Dieu Road, Pencester Road, B2011 Folkestone Road, Elms Vale Road, Eaton Road, Astor Avenue and Tower Street

WEST STREET, DEAL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on West Street, Deal, on or after 14 April 2013 as shown below.

Closures are planned for the Sundays of 14, 21 & 28 April 2013, between the hours of 16:00 hours and 23:00 hours each day.

There will be no through access between Queen Street and Western Road using West Street.

The alternative route is via A258 London Road, Albert Road, Western Road and West Street.

HIGHWAYS - MAIDSTONE AREA

CRIPPLE STREET, TOVIL, MAIDSTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install an underground electric cable, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Cripple Street, Tovil, Maidstone, on or after 8 April 2013 for up to 7 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside Bockingford Court.

The alternative route is via A229 Loose Road, Rosemount Close, Old Loose Hill, High Banks, Busbridge Road, Stockett Lane, Bockingford Lane, Teasaucer Hill.

DOVER STREET, MAIDSTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING & SUSPENSION OF ONE WAY ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a new sewer connection, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Dover Street, Maidstone, on or after 22 April 2013 for up to 8 days or until the works have been completed. The One Way Order will also be suspended to allow for access.

The road will be closed outside 38-40.

PEEL STREET, BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE (SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR) ORDER 2013 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

The Kent County Council, acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of their powers under sections 1(1), 2 (1) to 3, 3 (2), 4 (1) and (2) 32 (1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, hereby makes the following Order:

The Kent County Council (Peel Street, Borough of Maidstone) (School Keep Clear) Order 2013 shall have effect in the Schedule as though -

SCHEDULE

PROHIBITION OF STOPPING ON SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR MARKINGS MONDAY TO FRIDAY BETWEEN 8:15AM AND 15:45PM

Peel Street	Western side	Across the entrance to the North Borough Junior School.

The Order shall come into force on Monday 15th day of April 2013.

Full details are contained in the Order which together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the Order and a statement of reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Sessions House, Maidstone ME14 1XQ, between 8.30am and 5.00pm and at Maidstone Borough Council Offices, The Gateway, King Street, Maidstone during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

TERRACE ROAD, MAIDSTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to locate a buried valve to ensure that it is working, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Terrace Road, Maidstone, on or after 24 April 2013 for up to 7 working nights between 23:00hrs and 05:00hrs or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside number 9.

The alternative route is via A26 Tonbridge Road, B2246 Fountain Lane/Hermitage Lane, A20 London Road.

HIGHWAYS - SHEPWAY AREA

BRACK LANE, SNARGATE, BRENZETT (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

For the safety of road users following carriageway subsidence, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Brack Lane, Snargate, Brenzett, on or after 8 April 2013 for an indefinite period.

The road has been closed following a carriageway collapse, and needs to remain closed until a permanent solution can be found. It is not yet known how long this will be.

The closure is between the junctions with Bowdell Lane and Grove Lane.

The alternative route is via Grove Lane and Bowdell Lane.

This Order remains in force for up to 18 months, but will cease to have effect once repairs can be completed and the road re-opened.

CALGARY CRESCENT, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Calgary Crescent, Folkestone, on or after 24 April 2013 for up to 1 day, between 07.00 hours and 17.00 hours.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Beatty Road and Ivy Way.

The alternative route is via Beatty Road, Wood Avenue and Ivy Way.

A2033 DOVER ROAD, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow safe access to the underground cable network to provide a new customer phone service, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on A2033 Dover Road, Folkestone, on or after 8 April 2013, between 21:00 hours through until 06:00 hours.

The road will be closed northbound only, between the junctions with Bradstone Road and Bellevue Street.

The full alternative route is via A2033 Dover Road, Grace Hill, Shellons Street, Middelburg Square, A2034 Cheriton Gardens, A259 Shorncliffe Road, Cheriton Road, Radnor Park Road, Pavilion Road, Black Bull Road, Canterbury Road, A260 Hill Road, Dover Road, Southern Way, The Tram Road, Harbour Street and Tontine Street.

PLAIN ROAD, SELLINDGE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to refurbish the overhead electricity pylon network, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Plain Road, Sellindge, on or after 9 April 2013 as shown below.

Closures are planned for

9 April 2013 for up to 5 weeks
29 July 2013 for up to 4 weeks

The road will be closed between the junctions with Lilyvale Road and Southenay Lane.

The actual closure is in the vicinity of where the electricity pylons cross the road, with access from either direction up to the point of closure.

The alternative route is via Stone Hill, A20 Ashford Road, Hythe Road, Church Road and Plain Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, STELLING MINNIS & STOWTING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to refurbish the overhead electricity pylon network, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Various Roads, Stelling Minnis & Stowting, on or after 8 April 2013, as shown below.

The actual closures are in the vicinity of where the electricity pylons cross the road, with access from either direction up to the point of closure.

SANDY LANE, STELLING MINNIS will be closed between the junctions with Mockbeggar and Eastleigh Court Road.

Planned closures are

9 Apr 2013 for up to 4 weeks
15 July 2013 for up to 4 weeks

The alternative route is via Mockbeggar, High Minnis and Eastleigh Court Road.

GILDRIDGE HILL, STELLING MINNIS will be closed between the junctions with Fryarne Park and Elham Park / South Lodge Road

Planned closures are

9 Apr 2013 for up to 4 weeks
28 June 2013 for up to 7 weeks

The alternative route is via Fryarne Park, Palmstead Road, Peafield Wood Road, Fishers Lane and South Lodge Road

STOWTING HILL, STOWTING will be closed between the junctions with Stowting Court Road / Curteis Lane and Brabourne Lane

Planned closures are

22 Apr 2013 for up to 4 weeks
12 July 2013 for up to 4 weeks

The alternative route is via Brabourne Lane, Canterbury Road, Scots Lane & Stowting Court Road and Stowting Hill

WENHAMS LANE, OLD ROMNEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of cabling works in connection with the forthcoming Solar Farm, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Wenhams Lane, Old Romney, on or after 22 April 2013 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic between with Ivychurch and the A259 using this route.

The alternative route is via A259 Rhee Wall, Brenzett Roundabout, A2070 Ashford Road, Ivychurch Road and Wenhams Lane.

HIGHWAYS - SWALE AREA

CHURCH STREET, FAVERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Street, Faversham, on or after 8 April 2013 for up to 1 day, between 09:30 hours until 15:30 hours.

The road will be closed for its entire length, from the junction with Abbey Street, and also affects access to Vicarage Street.

There is no alternative route as the roads are *cul-de-sacs*.

Every effort will be made to maintain access whenever it is safe to do so, but there are likely to be some delays and various times when this is not possible, due to the use of machinery.

LYDBROOK CLOSE, SITTINGBOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Lydbrook Close, Sittingbourne, on or after 21 April 2013 for up to 1 day, between 07:00 and 19:00 hours.

The road will be closed for its entire length.

There is no alternative route as the road is a *cul-de-sac*.

Every effort will be made to maintain access whenever it is safe to do so, but there are likely to be some delays and certain times when this is not possible, due to the use of machinery.

MAIN ROAD, QUEENBOROUGH, SHEPPEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Main Road, Queenborough, Sheppey, on or after 27 April 2013 for up to 2 days, between 07:00 hours and 19:00 hours each day.

Main Road will be closed between the junctions with Rushenden Road and Castlemere Avenue.

The alternative route is via A249 Brielle Way, B2007 Whiteway Road, North Road and Railway Terrace.

HIGHWAYS - THANET AREA

HERESON ROAD, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of low voltage cable repair works, Kent County Council has made an Order to prohibit waiting on part of Hereson Road, Ramsgate, on or after 8 April 2013 for up to 2 weeks' or until the works have been completed.

Waiting will be prohibited at any time on the west side of Hereson Road, to the south of the junction with Lillian Road, outside numbers 76 - 80.

These restrictions apply when the relevant signs and No Waiting cones are in place.

HIGH STREET, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow the use of a mobile crane, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on High Street, Margate, on or after 14 April 2013 for up to 1 day, between 08:00 hours and 14:00 hours.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Market Street and Queen Street.

New Street will be closed at the junction with High Street

The alternative route is via Market Street, Lombard Street, Hawley Street, Cecil Square and Queen Street.

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways & Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

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LINDEN CLOSE, WESTGATE-ON-SEA, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway micro-surfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Linden Close, Westgate-on-Sea, Margate, on or after 8 April 2013 for up to 2 days, between 07:00 hours and 19:00 hours each day.

The road will be closed for its entire length.

There is no alternative route as the road is a *cul-de-sac*. Every effort will be made to try and maintain access whenever it is safe to do so.

PARK ROAD & PARK CRESCENT ROAD, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Park Road and Park Crescent Road, Margate, on or after 8 April 2013, as shown below.

PARK ROAD, MARGATE will be closed for its entire length, on 8 April 2013 between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours

The alternative route is via Dane Road, Addiscombe Road and Park Crescent Road.

PARK CRESCENT ROAD, MARGATE will be closed for its entire length, on 9 April 2013 between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours

The alternative route is via Park Road, Dane Road, Addiscombe Road and Park Crescent Road.

ST LUKE'S AVENUE, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of sewer repair works to replace manhole frames and covers in the carriageway, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on St Luke's Avenue, Ramsgate, planned to start on or after 22 April until 29 April 2013 inclusive, or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between junctions of Holly Road and Dumpton Park Road.

The alternative routes are

Eastbound via Hollicondane Road, Margate Road, Boundary Road and Hardres Road

Westbound via Dane Crescent, Dumpton Park Road, College Road and Holly

WESTBROOK ROAD, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

For the safety of the workforce and public during site construction works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to prohibit waiting on Westbrook Road, Margate, on or after 15 April 2013 for up to 1 year, or until the works have been completed.

Waiting will be prohibited on the west side of the north section of Westbrook Road, from a point opposite the northern boundary of number 15, northwards for a distance of 82 metres.

These restrictions apply from Monday to Friday each week, between 08:00 hours and 18:00 hours, when the relevant signs are displayed on site.

HIGHWAYS - TONBRIDGE & MALLING AREA

CUCKOO LANE, TONBRIDGE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of drainage and ditching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Cuckoo Lane, Tonbridge, on or after 22 April 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via Higham Lane, Ashes Lane, A26 Tonbridge Road.

HIGH STREET, WEST MALLING, TONBRIDGE & MALLING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is taking place on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on High Street, West Malling, between the entrance to the short stay car park (adj. 107 High Street) and the junction with Swan Street.

The Order will become effective on 28th April 2013 for the dates shown in schedule 1 below, between the hours of 6.00am to 3.00pm or until the time stated next to that date. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place for the durations of the events. Access will be maintained at all times as much as is possible.

The alternative route for High Street, West Malling will be via A228 Ashton Way, A20 London Road and Town Hill.

The purpose of the Order is to enable the Farmers Market, the Christmas lights switch on and the Coronation Celebration Party to take place.

For further information please contact Kent County Council Highways & Transportation on 08458 247 800.

Schedule 1

Sunday 28th April 2013	Sunday 27th October 2013
Sunday 26th May 2013 (until 8.00pm)	Sunday 24th November 2013
Saturday 1st June 2013 (until 10pm) & Sunday 2nd June 2013 (until 5pm)	Sunday 22nd December 2013
Sunday 23rd June 2013	Sunday 26th January 2014
Sunday 28th July 2013	Sunday 23rd February 2014
Sunday 25th August 2013	Sunday 23rd March 2014
Sunday 22nd September 2013	

HIGHWAYS - TUNBRIDGE WELLS

CULVERDEN PARK ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to reinstate a patch in the middle of the carriageway, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Culverden Park Road, Tunbridge Wells, on or after 8 April 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside number 7.

The alternative route is via Culverden Park and Culverden Down.

HIGHWAYS - WEST KENT AREA

VARIOUS ROADS, WEST KENT (MICROSURFACING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a programme of carriageway microsurfacing treatment works to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to restrict traffic on various roads in West Kent, as shown below.

The Order will become effective on or after **22nd April 2013** for up to 18 months, or until the works have been completed.

The planned dates and times for each road closure or restriction are shown below, in a Schedule listed in alphabetical order of District.

Planned dates will be indicated by signage displayed on site 7 days in advance. Road closures and other restrictions will be in effect when the appropriate signage and barriers are in place. Dates will be advertised on information boards on each site 14 days in advance of commencement.

The roads in the schedule will need to be re-closed approximately 7 days after the original closure to carry out road sweeping, replacement of lines and to adjust manholes as required.

Every effort will be made to keep to the schedule shown below. Some minor modifications may be made to dates and duration of works, to be advised once known.

Adverse weather conditions may prevent some works being carried out on the planned dates.

Roads that are missed will be re-scheduled, as advised locally and signposted on site.

SCHEDULE

MAIDSTONE MICROSURFACING

CROSS STREET, MAIDSTONE - closed between Hardy Street and Peel Street.

22nd to 23rd April 2013 - 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via Peel Street, John Street, Hardy Street, Fisher Street and Peel Street

NEW ROAD, OTHAM - Closed between A274 Sutton Road and Avery Lane.

26th and 29th April 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative Route via A274 Sutton Road, Gore Court Road, White Horse Lane and Simmonds Lane

HONEY LANE, OTHAM - Avery Lane to White Horse Lane

26th and 29th April 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative Route via New Road, A274 Sutton Road, Gore Court Road, White Horse Lane and Simmonds Lane

SIMMONDS LANE, OTHAM - Closed between Honey Lane and White Horse Lane

26th and 29th April 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative Route via White Horse Lane and Honey Lane

HAMPSTEAD LANE, YALDING - closed between Level crossing at Yalding Station and B2015 Maidstone Road, Nettlestead Green

30th April to 1st May 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via B2015 Maidstone Road, Bow Road, A20 Tonbridge Road, B2163 Teston Lane, Smiths Hill, Yalding Hill, B2010 High Street, Yalding, B2162 Lees Road, Hampstead Lane

STATION ROAD, NETTLESTEAD GREEN - closed between B2162 Hampstead Lane and B2015 Maidstone Road, Nettlestead Green

30th April to 1st May 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Via B2015 Maidstone Road and B2162 Hampstead Lane

HUNT STREET, WEST FARLEIGH - closed between Smiths Hill and Bow Hill.

10th to 11th May 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via B2163 Smiths Hill, Teston Lane, A26 Tonbridge Road, B2015 Bow Road and Bow Hill

LOWER ROAD, WEST FARLEIGH - Closed from Teston Lane to Dean Street

12th to 16th May 2013 0900hrs to 1500hrs

Westbound traffic alternative route via Dean Street, Heath Road, Ewell Lane and Lower Road

Eastbound traffic alternative route via Teston Lane, A26 Tonbridge Road, Terrace Road, A20 London Road, A229 The Broadway, Fairmeadow, Bishops Terrace, Mill Street, Palace Avenue, Lower Stone Street, Upper Stone Street, Sheals Crescent, B2010 Old Tovil Road, Tovil Road, Tovil Hill, Farleigh Hill, Dean Street

LOWER ROAD, WEST FARLEIGH - Closed from Ewell Lane to Teston Road

12th and 16th May 2013 0900hrs to 1500hrs

Alternative route via Ewell Lane, Heath Road, Dean Street and Lower Road

SMITHS HILL, WEST FARLEIGH - Closed from Ewell Lane to Shingle Barn Lane

17th and 20th May 2013 0900hrs to 1500hrs

Alternative route via B2163 Smiths Hill, Teston Lane, A20 Tonbridge Road, B2015 Bow Road, Maidstone Road, B2162 Hampstead Lane, Lees Road, Yalding High Street, Yalding Hill and Smiths Hill

PILGRIMS WAY, HARRIETSHAM & THURNHAM - closed between Hollingbourne Hill and The Street, Detling

31st May to 4th June 2013 (Including weekend) 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via Hollingbourne Hill, Upper Street, Eyehorne Street, A20 Ashford Road, Roundwell, The Street, Bearsted, Ware Street, Hockers Lane and The Street, Detling

HAZEL STREET ROAD, HAZEL STREET NR HUCKING - closed between South Green Lane and Southlees Lane

5th to 6th June 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via South Green Lane and Southlees Lane

SOUTH GREEN LANE, SOUTH GREEN, NR HUCKING - closed between Rumstead Road and Hazel Street Road

5th to 6th June 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via South Green Lane, Southlees Lane and Hazel Street Road

TONBRIDGE & MALLING MICROSURFACING

PILGRIMS WAY, WOULDHAM - closed between Wouldham Road and Knowle Road

24th to 25th April 2013 - 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via Wouldham Road, High Street Wouldham & Knowle Road

CHURCH ROAD, OFFHAM - Closed between The A20 London Road to a point 45m North of Church Farm

2nd May 2013 0930hrs to 1530hrs

Alternative Route via A20 London Road, B2016 Seven Mile Lane, Teston Road and Church Road

SANDY LANE, ADDINGTON - Closed between Ford Lane and St Vincent's Road Lane

2nd to 3rd May 2013 0930hrs to 1530hrs

Alternative Route via Ford Lane, A20 London Road & St Vincent's Lane

PLAXTOL LANE / CHURCH HILL, PLAXTOL - Closed between The A227 Ightham Road and the junction with The Street

7th to 8th May 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative Route via A227 Ightham Road, Back Lane, Reeds lane & School Lane

BELTRING ROAD, EAST PECKHAM - Closed between The A228 Branbridges Road and the Beltring Halt

9th May 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative Route via A228 Branbridges Road, Boyle Way, B2015 Maidstone Road, B2162 Hampstead Lane, Lees Road & Gravelly Ways

TUNBRIDGE WELLS MICROSURFACING

FIVE OAK GREEN ROAD, CROCKHURST STREET and TUDLEY LANE, FIVE OAK GREEN - Five Oak Green School to Postern Lane

2nd May to 8th May 2013 (no weekend working) 0900hrs to 1500hrs

Alternative route via B2017 Five Oak Green Road, A228 Maidstone Road (Colts Hill), A21 Pembury Road (HA), Castle Hill, Pembury Road, A26 off/on slip, A26 Woodgate Way and B2017 Five Oak Green Road. (And vice versa)

BRENCHLEY ROAD, HIGH STREET AND HORSMONDEN ROAD, BRENCHLEY - B2160 Maidstone Road, Matfield to Church Close

9th May to 12th May 2013 (Including weekend) 0900hrs to 1500hrs

Diversion via Brenchley Road, B2160, Maidstone Road, A21 (HA),

A262 Goudhurst Road, B2162 Lamberhurst Road, C50 Brenchley Road and Horsmonden Road

KNOWLE LANE, BRENCHLEY - Mile Oak Road to Knowle Road

13th May 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via Knowle Road, Crook Road, Pixot Hill and Mile Oak Road

REGENT STREET, BENENDEN ROAD, ROLVENDEN ROAD and THE STREET, BENENDEN - A28 Rolvenden High Street to New Pond Road, Benenden

14th May to 24th May 2013 (Not weekends) 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative Route via A28 Rolvenden High Street, Hastings Road, A268 Linkhill, Queen Street, Megrims Hill, Sponden Lane, Mill Street and New Pond Road

MOUNTS HILL, CRANBROOK ROAD and SWATTENDEN LANE - New Pond Road crossroads to A229 Hartley Road

24th May to 30th May 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via Iden Green Road, Mill Street, Sponden Lane, A268 Megrims Hill, Rye Road A229 Cranbrook Road, Gills Green, Hawkhurst Road and Hartley Road

PENSHURST RD/BIDBOROUGH RIDGE, BIDBOROUGH - 50m east of j/w of Darnley Drive to Mill Court

31st May to 2nd June 2013 (Including weekend) 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via B2176 Penshurst Road, Hayesden Lane, Upper Hayesden Lane, Brook Street, A26 Quarry Hill, London Road and B2176 Bidborough Ridge

MOUNT EPHRAIM, TUNBRIDGE WELLS - A26 London Road to Major Yorks Road

16th September to 18th September, 2013 0900hrs to 1500hrs

Diversion via Major Yorks Road, A26 Eridge Road and A26 London Road

CLAREMONT GARDENS, TUNBRIDGE WELLS - Whole length

16th September 2013 0830hrs to 1500hrs

No diversion as this road is a cul-de-sac

FURNACE LANE, LAMBERHURST - Town Hill crossroads to County Boundary near Bayham Abbey entrance

19th September to 26th September 2013 (Not weekend) 0900hrs to 1500hrs

For this section only alternative route via B2100 Town Hill, High Street The Broadway, School Hill, A21, A21 Hastings Road, A264 Pembury Road, Bayham Road, Forest Road, B2169 Bayham Road and Furnace Lane

THE DOWN, LAMBERHURST - Spray Hill to Town Hill crossroads

19th September to 26th September 2013 (Not weekend) 0830hrs to 1730hrs

For this section only alternative route via Spray Hill, High Street, Town Hill and Furnace Lane

SAND ROAD, LAMBERHURST - The Down to Town Hill

19th September to 26th September 2013 (Not weekend) 0830hrs to 1730hrs

For this section only alternative route via The Down and Town Hill

ROGERS ROUGH ROAD, GOUDHURST - Lady Oak Lane to Church Road, Kilndown

26th to Saturday 28th September 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative Route via B2079 Lady Oak Lane, Bedgebury Road, Peasley Lane and Ranters Lane

PRIORS HEATH, GOUDHURST - B2079 Lady Oak Lane to Roger's Rough Road

26th to Saturday 28th September 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative Route via B2079 Lady Oak Lane, Bedgebury Road, Peasley Lane and Ranters Lane

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways & Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk

HIGHWAYS

CHICKS LANE, GOUDHURST - Rogers Rough Road to Church Road, Kilndown

26th to Saturday 28th September 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative Route via Church Road, Kilndown, Ranters Lane, Peasley Lane, B2079 Bedgebury Road and Lady Oak Lane

LADY OAK LANE and BEDGEBURY ROAD, GOUDHURST - A21 to Balcombes Hill

Sunday 29th September to 4th October 2013 0900hrs to 1500hrs

Alternative route via Balcombes Hill, A262 West Road, Clayhill, Station Road, B2162 Lamberhurst Road, School Hill, The Broadway, Spray Hill and A21 London Road

DIG DOG LANE, FRITTENDEN - closed between C89 Frittenden Road and C146 Hareplain Road (At the Three Chimneys Public House)

7th to 9th October 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via Hareplain Road, A262 Sissinghurst Road, The Street, Wilesley Pound, A229 Cranbrook Road and Frittenden Road

BUBHURST LANE, FRITTENDEN - closed for its whole length

10th to 11th October 2013 0830hrs to 1730hrs

(No alternative route as this is a no-through road)

John Burr
Director of Highways & Transportation
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ **Dated 7th April 2013**

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways & Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk

To place your notice here call the Kent Public Notice team on 01303 817056

LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

Swale BOROUGH COUNCIL

MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2013/14

At the Council meeting on 20 March 2013 Councillors approved changes to the Members' Allowances Scheme as set out below. In accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 Council had regard to the views of the Independent Members' Remuneration Panel when setting the allowances, which will come into effect from 16 May 2013.

Basic Allowance	£4,737
Special Responsibility Allowance	Leader - £18,000 Cabinet Members - £10,800 Minority Leader of the largest minority party - £9,000 Minority Leader of the smaller minority party - £1,800 Scrutiny Chairmen - £4,950 Planning Chairman - £6,300 Audit Chairman - £1,800
Travel Allowances	Not exceeding 999 cc- 42.9 p 1000 cc - 1199cc - 46.9 p Above 1200cc- 58.7 p
Subsistence Allowances	Subsistence Allowances for which Councillors can claim for undertaking approved duties and approved attendance at conferences/seminars, are based and indexed to the guidance published by South East Employers.
Information Communication Technology Allowance	£15 per month
Indexation	The Basic Allowance, SRAs, Co-optees Allowances and ICT Allowance will be indexed to the annual percentage salary increase for local government staff (at spinal column 49) to be implemented from the start of the municipal year for which year it is applicable. Subsistence Allowances should be indexed to the rates published each year in guidance issued by the South East Employers.

Copies of the report to Council and the full Members' Allowances Scheme are available to view on the Council's website or for inspection at the following address: Democratic Services, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT, during office hours, or alternatively by e-mailing democraticservices@swale.gov.uk or by telephoning (01795) 417330.

Mark Radford
Corporate Services Director **27 March 2013**

LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

Maidstone Borough Council ("the Council")

NOTICE OF DOG CONTROL ORDERS

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
Dog Control (Prescribed Offences and Penalties etc) Regulations

On 19th March 2013 the Council made the following Dog Control Orders under section 55 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. The orders will come into force on 8th April 2013.

1. The Fouling of Land by Dogs (Maidstone) Order 2013

Under the order if a dog defecates at any time on land to which this Order applies and a person who is in charge of the dog at that time fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith, that personal shall be guilty of an offence subject to certain defences and exemptions.

The order applies to land within the borough area open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment). (Any land that is covered shall be treated as land that is 'open to the air' if it is open to the air on at least one side).

2. The Dog Exclusion (Maidstone) Order 2013

Under the order a person in charge of a dog, at any time, takes the dog onto, or permits the dog to enter or to remain on, any land to which the order applies shall be guilty of an offence subject to certain defences and exemptions.

The order applies to all children's play areas which are (1) enclosed by means of a fence, hedge or wall and/or gate and (2) owned or maintained by Maidstone Borough Council or by any county, parish or town council or by any Registered Social Landlord within the borough area where a "no dog sign" is displayed.

And

Maidstone Crematorium, Vinters Park

The orders may also be viewed online at www.maidstone.gov.uk

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NOTICE OF INTENDED LAND DISPOSAL
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972
SECTION 123 (2A)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council intends to dispose of the freehold interest in five areas of land, which are for identification purposes described in the schedule to this notice.

This notice is given in so far as each area of land consists of or forms part of an open space within the meaning of the above Section.

A plan of each area of land is available to view at the Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2AB or at the Weald Information Centre, The Old Fire Station, Stone Streeet, Cranbrook TN17 3HF.

Objections to any of the proposed disposals must be made in writing to the Legal Services Manager, Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS by no later than 19 April 2013.

SCHEDULE

Land off Brokes Way, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells (approximately 0.160223 hectares)

Land at Cryals Road, Matfield (approximately 0.512528 hectares)

Land at rear of Hartnokes, White's Lane, Hawkhurst (approximately 0.110355 hectares)

Land at Pixot Hill, Brenchley (approximately 0.375797 hectares)

Land at Sandrock Road, Tunbridge Wells (approximately 0.08834 hectares)

Paul Cummins,
Legal Services Manager
Dated 28th March 2013

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Auction Sale
23rd April 2013

barnard marcus

By order of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

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- Sandrock Road, TN2 3PZ
- Brokes Way, TN4 4AH
- Pixot Hill, TN12 7BD

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FOOTBALL

‘If we just want a day out at Wembley, we’ll do the tour’

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

WEMBLEY was where it all began – the first experience, then the inspiration, and now the reality for Martin Larkin, who is set to lead his Tunbridge Wells side out at the national stadium next month.

The dust is barely settling in the west of the county following Wells’s epic extra-time win over AFC Shildon in the FA Vase semi-final last weekend that booked them a place at Wembley on Saturday, May 4.

Taking a 2-0 lead from the first leg to the North East, they were 3-0 down after 66 minutes and heading out of the competition before an Andy Irvine goal sent the tie into extra-time. Perry Spackman then headed the goal that secured a 4-3 aggregate victory and that trip to Wembley.

The Kent League club have already written their name into the history books, being just the second Kent side to make the FA Vase final.

A glance across to the coast and Deal Town shows what such an achievement can do, with experienced manager Tommy Sampson’s victorious side of 2000 still revered in local non-league circles.

However, the similarities between the clubs and indeed the managers end there. Just 32, Larkin started out as a fitness coach at Ashford Town before becoming manager at Wells two years ago. He did not even play the sport at any notable level, having had a keener interest in cricket until he left university.

“The Deal Town story is very different to us. They had a massive playing budget – Tommy is open about that... he was on a full-time salary,” said Larkin.

“We don’t have a budget. I’m pretty sure no one has got to the final without a budget. We wanted to be the ones to get there and win it without one – it would be a fairy tale.

“If we can complete the story, it will be something we’ll talk about for a long time.

“It is difficult at times – we started with local players. There’s a lot of talent around Tunbridge Wells – it means more to players who are local.

“The environment we have is that everyone wants to be a part of it. Getting to the final means players have stayed when they’ve had offers from elsewhere. We are proud we don’t pay.”

His walk out on to the hallowed turf will not be Larkin’s first visit to the venue – he watched a Vase final several years ago on a mission to be inspired, while his first experience of a football match was watching Liverpool play Arsenal in the 1990 Charity Shield.

“We have got some players coming to the end of their careers – people like striker Richard Sinden, who has had a fantastic career in the Kent League. He will get it to cap it off at Wembley,” said Larkin.

“Andy McMath had booked his stag night for that weekend, so he’s had to change it. It will be his last game because he’s emigrating to Australia. He’s already dreaming of his last kick being the winning goal.”

It will be anything but a day out for the team, though: “It’s the one thing we said to the lads on Saturday – if they want a day out at Wembley, we can book them a tour.

“We worked hard to get there. Two, three or four weeks afterwards we can sit down and think about what a great achievement it is, but we need to focus on the day.

“I always knew I would be able to do something given the chance in a first team, but you don’t think about Wembley. This year, though, we targeted the Vase as something to improve on. We have improved year on year.

“We’re desperate to see if we can get 20,000 there. Tunbridge Wells Rugby Club have booked a lot of tickets. It’s the same with the hockey club. It’s a big day out for Kent.”

All eyes will be on the side in the next month, and interest in joining the club has grown.

“On the way home on Saturday, I had emails from people asking for trials and stuff. But we’re very happy with the squad we’ve got,” he said. “It’s going to be bad enough telling four players they are not in the squad on the day.

“We got home at 1.30am – I didn’t sleep at all. I just couldn’t shut my eyes, to be honest.

“We have got a lot of distractions, with league games to play and the Kent Cup final to play. We need to embrace it [the Vase] and enjoy it but ensure it’s not too much of a distraction.”

■ **Tickets for the final are priced at £15 for adults and £5 for children under 16. Visit www.thefa.com/tickets or phone 0844 980 0656.**



HISTORY MAN: Martin Larkin’s Tunbridge Wells team secured history in their match at AFC Shildon last weekend, below

Pictures: ADY KERRY







CRICKET

Kent’s Davies kept busy by brother’s exploits in off-season

Picture: ADY KERRY



FANTASTIC: Davies watched brother in cup final

WITH the swagger of an older brother, cricketer Mark Davies insists he is a far better footballer than his younger sibling Andrew, despite the latter’s appearance at Wembley last month in the final of the Capital One Cup.

The Kent bowler has had the normal off-season, spending plenty of time with his family back in his native Durham, while also watching his brother turn out for League Two side Bradford City against Swansea City in the Wembley final... Bradford lost 5-0.

Mark, 32, and Andrew, 28, have spent their careers supporting each other as the cricket and football seasons swap over.

Kent’s Davies even had the pleasure of watching his younger brother play for the club they support, Middlesbrough, in the Premier League and four times in the Uefa Cup, in the season they were runners-up to Sevilla in 2006/07.

“It was amazing,” he said. “To watch him walk out at Wembley was fantastic. It was bitter-sweet, really, because we watched him get tortured for 45 minutes.

“I was much better at football and cricket than him, of course. I’m the older brother – I could never bow down and accept he was better.

“He grew up and got bigger than me and took up football. He played cricket all through school and was at Durham for a brief amount of time before he went on to Boro’s academy.”

The fact that their mother worked in the ticket office at Middlesbrough helped, of course, as they grew up inspired by sport.

“We used to watch our uncle, Paul Adamson, play cricket for Yorkshire, and another uncle who played football,” he said.

“We just picked up the bat and ball. From four years old on, sport was always what we were going to do.

“I played a bit of district football at school, but I knew where I was going with cricket. Andrew comes down and watches me as well. At Durham he used to come and bowl at the lads in the nets.”

Kent finished their last friendly match with a draw at home to Surrey at the St Lawrence Ground on Wednesday. They scored 318 for eight from 93.5 overs on Tuesday, with Brendan Nash making 75. The visitors racked up 327 for three in reply before declaring for a draw.

Kent take on Cardiff MCCU in Canterbury on Wednesday this week before starting their County Championship season at Leicestershire on Wednesday, April 17.

FOOTBALL

Allen grateful for Scally's faith as Gills edge closer to history

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

Picture: ADY KERRY



THANKS: Allen grateful for the support of Gills chairman Scally

MARTIN Allen admits he owes Gillingham chairman Paul Scally everything for the club's success this season.

With the Gills' two disappointing years of narrowly missing out on the play-offs a distant memory, the club stand on the verge of clinching a place back in League One and their first promotion without the need of play-offs for 17 years.

It will be Allen's first promotion as a manager, having seen sides to safety throughout his career as a rescue specialist, but with the backing of Scally and a family atmosphere around the club, he has guided the Gills to domination of League Two this campaign.

Allen, who took on the job in the summer after Andy Hessenthaler stepped down and became director of football, said there was no one he would be happier for than Scally were the Gills to go up, which could be confirmed this weekend.

"We had several meetings in the summer – we just chatted," said Allen. "They took place on Sunday afternoons and we talked for two or three hours about life.

"He would say 'You need to come back because we haven't talked about football'. I came back and he said 'Have you got a laptop presentation to show me what you're going to do?'. I said 'No'.

"I said 'What we've just done for the last three weeks is what we will do with the players' – we talk to the players and find out what they like. It's not about tactics and coaching, it's about being good to people.

"The person I will be happiest for is Mr Scally. He gave me my chance. Without him, none of this would have happened – let's be honest.

"I speak to Mr Scally almost every day – he never asks why I'm making changes. I know directors at other clubs have threatened to fine players because their studs are too short, they keep slipping over – how bizarre is that?"

Allen won two promotions as a player, both with West Ham, but he has waited 17 years since his retirement to achieve the same feat as a manager. Gillingham's last promotion came via the play-offs in League Two in 2009/10 after they had finished fifth.

Before then they came third in League One and won the play-offs in 1999/00 against Wigan Athletic to reach the Championship.

But the last time they won promotion through the automatic spots was in 1995/96. It was Scally's first season as owner, when they finished second in Division Three under the leadership of Tony Pulis, now at Stoke City.

"Seventeen years I have worked for this. It's amazing, quite surreal," said Allen. "We've been top for all but two weeks of the season – it's an amazing feat. People say we have had a bad run, but when we have lost we have only lost by one goal. To come here and be top of the league for the whole season, I've never known anything like it.

"Manager-wise, I've taken over clubs near the bottom of the league and been able to take teams into the play-offs the following year, which is a good achievement in itself.

"I had good times at Brentford, where I had fantastic backing. We were once in the play-offs at Reading as coach. Barnet, we all know Barnet – it's a Uri Geller role to bend and twist things to stay up on the last day.

"I think you feel pressure if your players are not very good. I think you feel pressure if the chairman is on your case, you feel pressure if the local media are criticising you.

"It is tough as a manager."

NON-LEAGUE TALK

Bromley decide future of duo as Dover sign striker

DOVER Athletic have boosted their squad for their promotion push by signing striker Harry Ottaway.

Chris Kinnear signed the young forward from fellow Blue Square South side Sutton United.

He went straight into their squad for the tie against Sutton last Saturday as the Whites shared the spoils in a 1-1 draw. He also came off the bench in their 3-0 Easter Monday win over Chelmsford City.

One player who has left Dover this week is Tom Axford, who has rejoined Ryman One South side **Whitstable Town** on loan.

The right-back joined the Oystermen in February, but his loan deal expired at the end of March and has now been extended until the end of the season.

Blue Square South side **Bromley** have decided to release midfielder Ali Fuseini after the 23-year-old and the club failed to agree terms on a new deal to stay at Hayes Lane next season. The former Millwall trainee joined the club for the second time in January last year.

The club have also let Aaron Rhule sign registration forms for Ryman Premier side Hastings United, allowing him to gain some first-team football.

Hythe Town have re-signed left-winger Kieran Byrne on dual registration from Ashford United. Byrne last played for the now-Ryman One South side when they won the Kent League.

MOTORSPORT

Shakey ready for the most competitive season to date

Picture: ADY KELLY



AT HOME: Byrne at Brands Hatch

SHANE 'Shakey' Byrne is all geared up for the most competitive British Superbike Championship yet – starting at Brands Hatch this weekend.

Sittingbourne star Byrne is looking to win his fourth BSB title in defending his 2012 crown but will be up against Ryuichi Kiyonari, who is also aiming for a record fourth championship.

The stage is all set for a spectacular season, with the two going head to head, but Byrne insists there is more than their rivalry to focus on.

"My team have been working hard all winter to give me the best possible package and I am prepared to push it as far as it takes to win a fourth title," said the 35-year-old. "Everyone is talking about me and Kiyo, but I think there is going to be a great deal more to come from the other riders, too.

"I genuinely think that this is one of the most competitive championships in the world and I think the racing is going to be really exciting across the classes."

RUGBY

Final dream over

MAIDSTONE'S dream of reaching Twickenham were dashed as they lost their first game of the season in the semi-final of the RFU Senior Vase.

Last month the club won the regional section of the competition and were drawn at home to Drybrook in the semi-finals of the national stage, meaning they were just 80 minutes away from a day at Twickenham.

They lost 16-6 against the Gloucester side at The Mote in what was their first loss of the season in all competitions as they had already stormed to the London 3 South East league title.

Everything was to play for with Dyrbook just 3-0 up at the break. Sam Brill scored two penalties for Maidstone, but they had no answer to Drybook's two unconverted tries, one at the death, and a penalty that sealed the win.

ICE HOCKEY

Mos in play-offs

THE Invicta Dynamos will be going for glory in the second leg of their league play-off on Sunday this weekend.

The Gillingham-based side travel to the Cardiff NIHL Devils on Saturday night, with the return fixture at the Silver Blades Ice Rink on Sunday this weekend, starting at 5.15pm.

The Mos go into the double-header having lost just one of their last five league matches, one of which was a 4-2 win in Cardiff against the Devils. They also put in a commanding performance in a 9-4 win over Solent & Gosport in their last game in the league.

Kevin Parrish's side finished the regular season in the National Ice Hockey League South Division One in fifth, a place above Cardiff.

MOTORSPORT

Frustrating start

TECHNICAL problems made for a frustrating start to the British Touring Car Championship season for Airwaves Racing at Brands Hatch.

Both of the Kent team's new NGTC Ford Focus ST's, driven by Mat Jackson and Aron Smith, suffered unexpected problems, with temperatures near freezing at the track last weekend.

Jackson finished 20th, 8th and 10th, while Smith finished in 9th but was then forced to retire in the second race because of wiring issues before coming 11th in the last.

Addison Lee Motorbase driver Liam Griffin picked up silverware in the Jack Sears Trophy, winning two of his three races in his class.

The next round of the BTCC is at at Donington Park on April 20/21.

CRICKET

England call-up

JAMES Tredwell has been named in the 30-man England performance squad for the international summer season.

The Kent captain played a part in England's tour of India this winter and was called up as a cover to Monty Panesar after Graeme Swann withdrew from the Test series against New Zealand last month.

ECB National Selector Geoff Miller said: "The players included in this squad reflect the progress they have made with senior England teams and the England Lions over the last 12 months.

"All of the players named in the EPS squad have been involved with one or more of the England squads during the winter."

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